

School of Theology at Claremont



1001 1406385

# REVERE

A RECONNAISSANCE STUDY

By the 1951 Class in  
Church and Community Analysis

May, 1952  
Department of Research and Strategy  
Massachusetts Council of Churches

BL  
2527  
R4  
M37  
1952

BL  
2527  
R4  
M37  
1952

#### FOREWORD

This study of the City of Revere and its churches was requested by the Protestant ministers of Revere; it was undertaken by the class in Church and Community Analysis, of Boston University School of Theology, under the direction of Glen W. Trimble, Department of Research and Strategy, Massachusetts Council of Churches. Material for the study was gathered by the following students, who also took part in the population sampling: John H. Adams, Roosevelt D. Crockett, J. Melvyn Clemons, James E. Doty, Clifford C. Ham, Reinhard Hermann, and John A. Huffman. The study was rechecked, amplified and written by the undersigned.

Unfortunately, the results of the 1950 U. S. Census are not published in enough detail that they could be used in this survey. Some figures revealing breakdown of the population are out-dated; where 1940 figures are used, they are identified as such. Thanks to the cooperation of many city officials, current figures are available in many instances.

Time has allowed no more than a reconnaissance survey of Revere. Yet, this brief study reveals many strong points in the Revere Protestant churches, as well as areas needing further study and action. This study is submitted to the ministers, laymen, and denominational representatives for their attention and implementation.

Clifford C. Ham

	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
I. COMMUNITY ANALYSIS		2
A. History and Government		2
B. Land Use		7
C. Transportation		12
D. Population		13
E. Housing		20
F. Schools and Educational Status of Population in Revere	22	
G. Social Factors in Revere		27
H. Trends in Revere		31
II. CHURCH ANALYSIS		32
A. Roman Catholic Churches		32
B. Jewish Congregations		35
C. The Pentecostal Christian Assembly		36
D. Protestant Churches in Revere		36
E. The Population Sampling		44
F. Gambling and the Race Tracks in Revere		51
G. Areas of Weakness in Protestant Churches in Revere		52

TABLE OF TABLES

	Page
I Municipal Finance	6
II Employment Distribution of Revere Residents, by Industry, 1940	10
III Comparative Figures in Employment and Wages	11
IV Population, 1860 - 1950	13
V Explanation of Increase in Population, 1940-1950	16
VI Age and Sex Distribution of Population, Revere, 1940	17
VII Condition of Housing in 1940, by Wards	21
VIII Type of Dwelling Units, Revere, 1940	21
IX Revere School Statistics, Compared with Chelsea	22
X Schools and Enrollment in Revere, 1952	24
XI Revere Compared with 55 Other Metropolitan Boston Communities on Several Social and Economic Factors	30
XII Membership in Protestant Churches, 1940, 1950, 1952	38
XIII Gain or Loss of Members, 1951	40
XIV Total Sunday School Enrollment, 1940, 1950, 1952	41
XV Religious Affiliation of 525 Revere Families	45
XVI Religious Affiliation in 1936 and 1951	46
XVII Size of Family, by Affiliation	47
XVIII Religious Affiliation by Wards	47
XIX Attendance and Non-Attendance by Denominations	49
XX Number and Age of Protestant Children in Sampling	50
XXI Length of Residence at the Same Address, by Affiliation	50
XXII Intention to Move from Revere, By Affiliation	51

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
XXIII "Should Gambling be Allowed in Revere?"	51
XXIV Figures Used in Calculations	55
XXV Membership Statistics, Protestant Churches, 1952	56
XXVI Financial Condition, Protestant Churches	57
XXVII Activities of Protestant Churches	58
XXVIII Pastors of Protestant Churches	59
XXIX Facilities of Protestant Churches	60

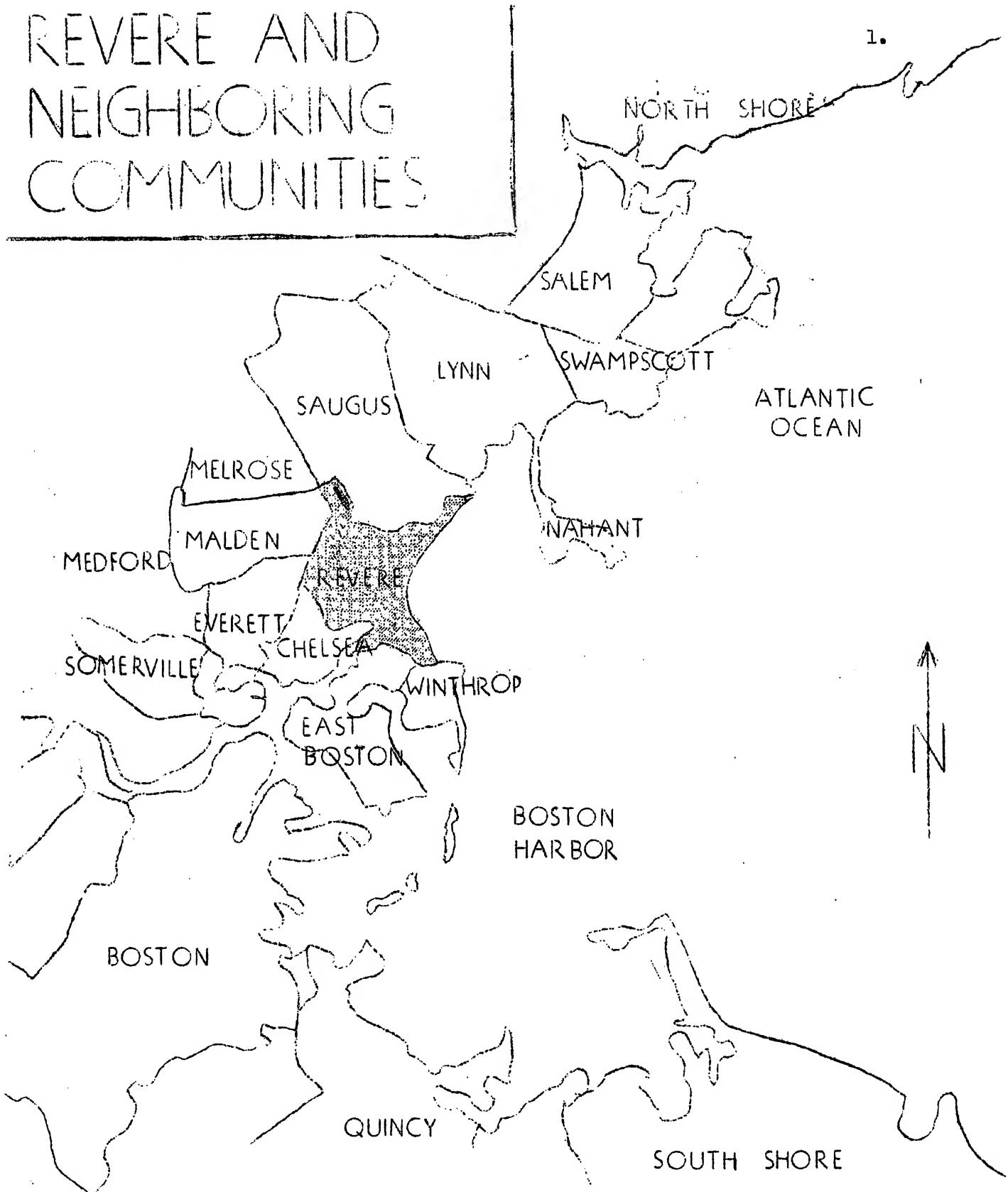
## CHARTS

	Page
I Municipal Finance	6
II Land Use In Revere	9
III Origin of Foreign-Born, 1940	14
IV Classification of Employment, 1940	15
V Population Pyramid, 1940	17
VI Educational Achievement of Revere Residents over 25	25
VII Educational Achievement in Revere, Compared with Chelsea	26
VIII Protestant Churches Since 1900	39
IX The Card Used in Population Sampling	54

MAPS

	Page
I      Revere and Neighboring Communities	1
II     The City of Revere	3
III    Wards and Precincts of Revere	5
IV    Land Use in Revere	8
V    Density of Population	18
VI   Centers of Population	19
VII   Schools in Revere	23
VIII   Churches in Revere	33
IX   Protestant Percent of Ward Population	48

# REVERE AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES



MAP I

## I. COMMUNITY ANALYSIS

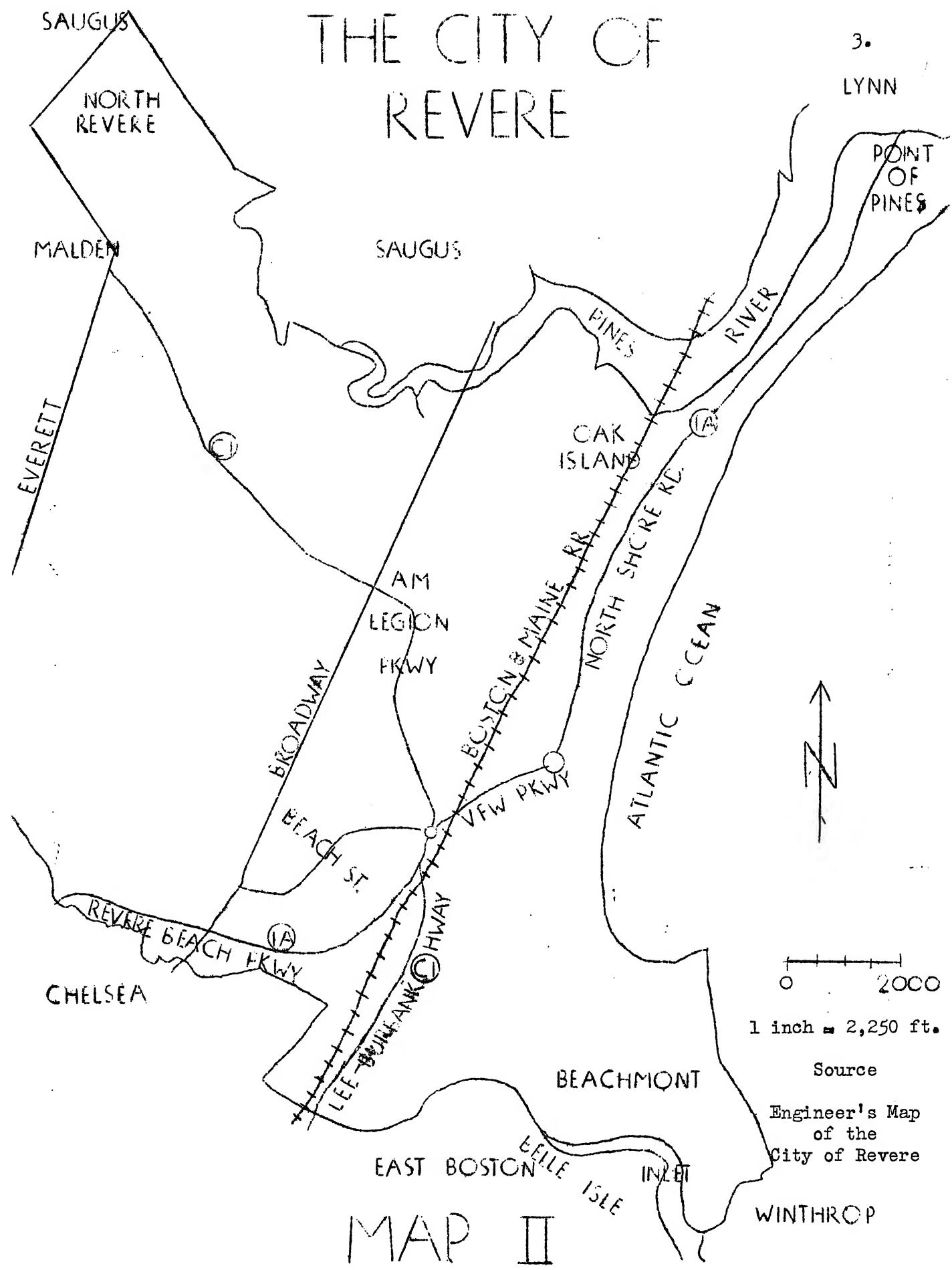
### A. History and Government

Revere was first explored by a Captain John Smith in 1614. The next record of a visit to the area is dated ten years later. In 1624, Samuel Maverick settled at Winnisimmet (now Chelsea) and built the first house in what is now the northeast region of Metropolitan Boston. Within a few years there were planters established in the country north of Winnisimmet, then known as Rumney Marsh. This name included roughly the present areas (or parts) of Chelsea, Revere, East Boston and Winthrop. East Boston at that time consisted of two islands, Breeds Island (or Hog Island) and Nodules Island. Winthrop was called Pullen Point.

In 1634 Rumney Marsh was made part of the newly settled town of Boston, and in the same year its area was divided up and allocated to various citizens of Boston. At this time it included in addition a long narrow strip of land about three-quarters of a mile wide and two miles long. This land, known as the "panhandle", extended from what is now the northwest boundary of Revere to the Reading town line. The area which is now Revere, plus the "panhandle", included twenty-two parcels of land. Many of the allottees never settled in the area and the land was sold and resold with a gradual accumulation in the hands of a few men. By 1650 the whole of Revere was contained in seven large farms.

After the annexation to Boston the area enjoyed one hundred years of prosperous development. In 1739 it had reached a point where autonomy as a town was requested and granted. Previously the area had enjoyed only the right of separate meeting for religious services, schooling and civic

# THE CITY OF REVERE



discussion, with the privilege of recommending measures to the Boston governing body. The new town was called "Chelsea".

In 1841 the "panhandle", except for a small area now called North Revere, was annexed to Saugus. In 1846 Rumney Marsh (the Revere area) and Pullen Point were set off by the legislature as North Chelsea. In 1852 Pullen Point became the Town of Winthrop. Finally, in 1871, North Chelsea became the Town of Revere, named after the famous Paul Revere, and in 1915 it became the City of Revere.

Meanwhile, corresponding changes were being made in the governing units of the area. During the early days of settlement, while under the aegis of Boston, the seat of local meeting was in Revere. A log cabin was the first meeting house but was replaced in 1710 by a frame building which served as a sort of "capitol" of the area until the successive separations left Revere autonomous. This building is still standing on Beach Street and is used as the Masonic Temple.

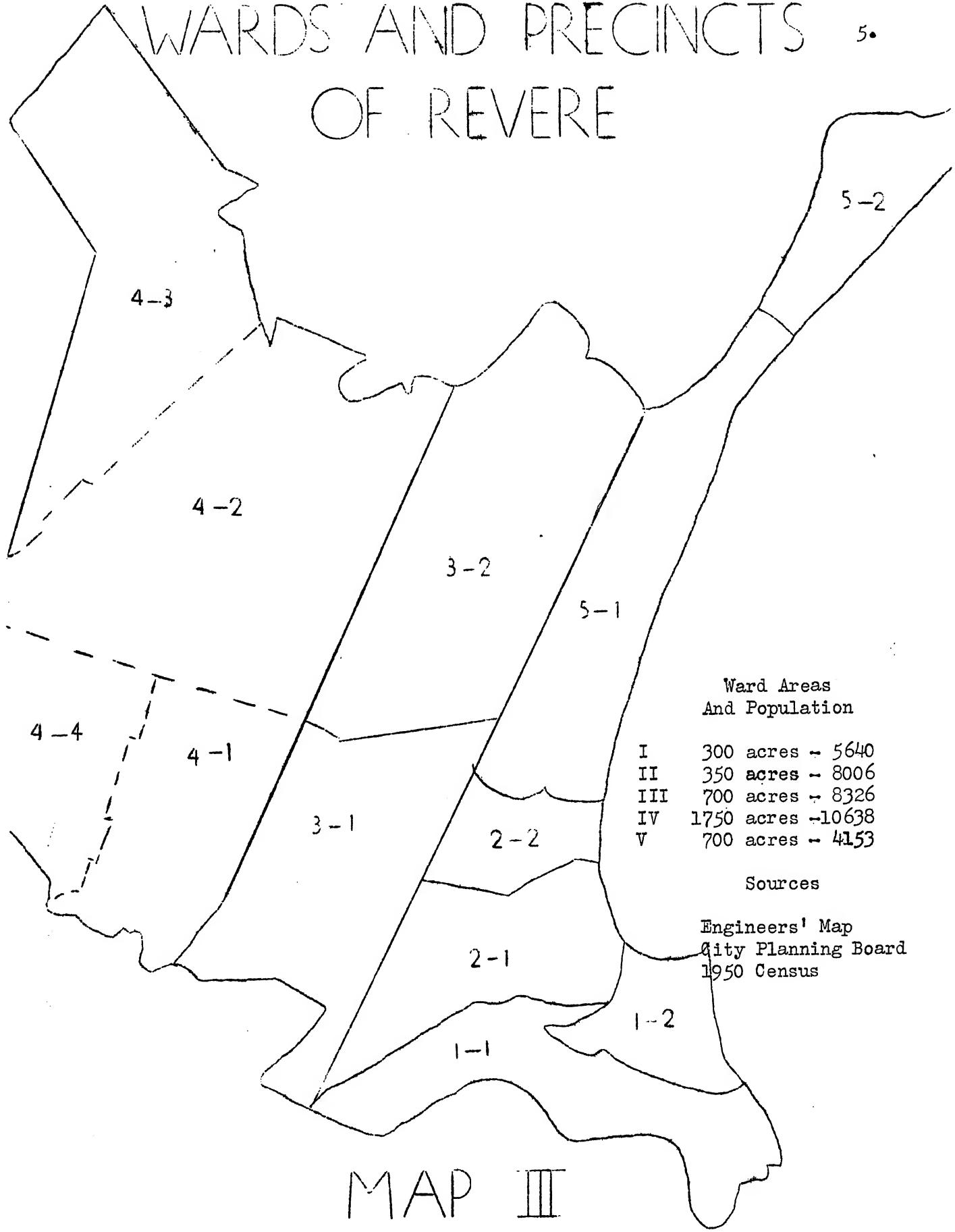
Today, Revere has a Council-Manager form of government. Seven councilmen are elected at-large for two-year terms. They elect a mayor, from among themselves, who presides at their meetings and at meetings of the school committee. They also appoint the City Manager as the city administrator.

The City of Revere owns only the water distribution system as far as utilities are concerned. The City owns no water works, sewer system, auditorium, gas or electric company, incinerator, or other public service. Recently the City Planning Board was established on a full-time basis and is working on redevelopment.

Revere's financial base has improved since the war. Assessed valuation has climbed from \$39 million in 1946 to \$54 million in 1951.

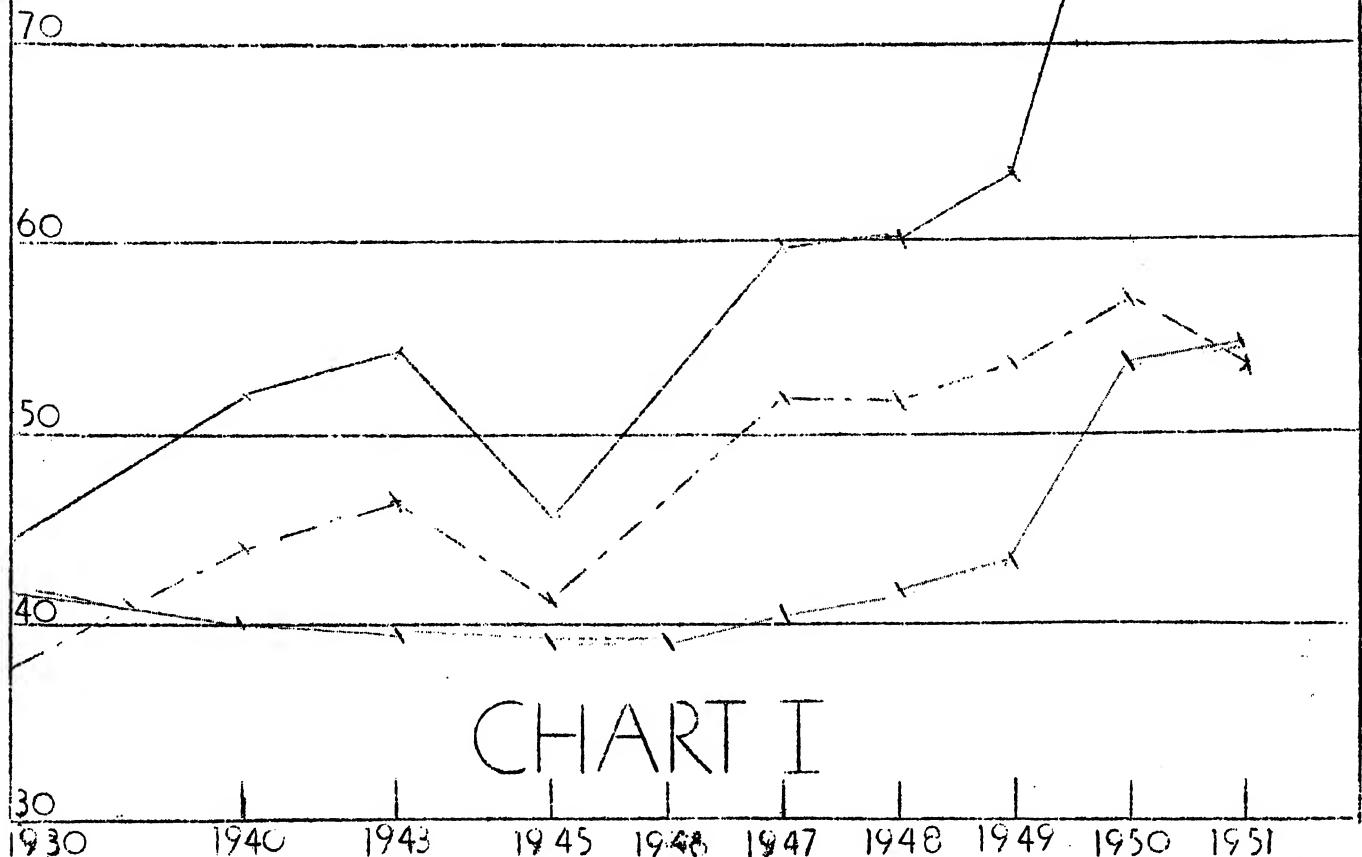
# WARDS AND PRECINCTS OF REVERE

5.



# MUNICIPAL FINANCE

6.



## CHART I

\_\_\_\_\_ Levy per Capita - \$.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Rate - \$/1000  
 ..... Assessed Valuation - Millions of \$

	<u>Ass. Val.</u>	<u>Val/capita</u>	<u>T. Rate</u>	<u>Total Levy</u>	<u>Levy/cap</u>	<u>Tax.Collect</u>
1951	54,468,000	1,495.	53.50	2,938,845	80.20	
1950	53,455,000	1,458.	57.00	3,046,941	82.60	96.
1949	43,395,550	1,187.	53.40	2,317,322	63.40	97.
1948	41,868,200	1,150.	51.60	2,184,415	60.00	97.
1947	40,810,550	1,143.	51.80	2,138,046	59.91	95.
1946	39,363,200	1,103.	46.80	1,866,154	52.29	89.4
1945	39,250,550	1,099.	41.00	1,633,691	45.78	88.0
1943	39,660,850	1,153.	46.40	1,864,005	54.18	80.3
1940	40,092,300	1,165.	44.00	1,786,331	51.92	65.7
1930	41,849,250	1,173.	37.80	1,581,901	44.34	55.5

## TABLE I

Consequently, despite almost 50% increase in expenditures, the tax rate has not climbed proportionately though it has increased from 46.80 \$ per thousand to 53.50/1000 in 1951. Compared to Boston's 1951 tax rate of 62.80 or Chelsea's 64.20, Revere's tax rate seems to indicate better financial condition. Part of this may be the distribution of industries and businesses in Revere, and perhaps a better class of industry than the neighboring city of Chelsea.

#### B. Land Use

Revere is geologically a part of the strip of lowlands that stretch from Weymouth (on Boston's south shore) north to Saugus, including many acres of marshes and tidal flats. Revere has, however, seven hills of good size, plus many smaller rises which make firmer and more pleasant building ground. Some of the rougher areas have recently been built upon supplying residences for citizens.

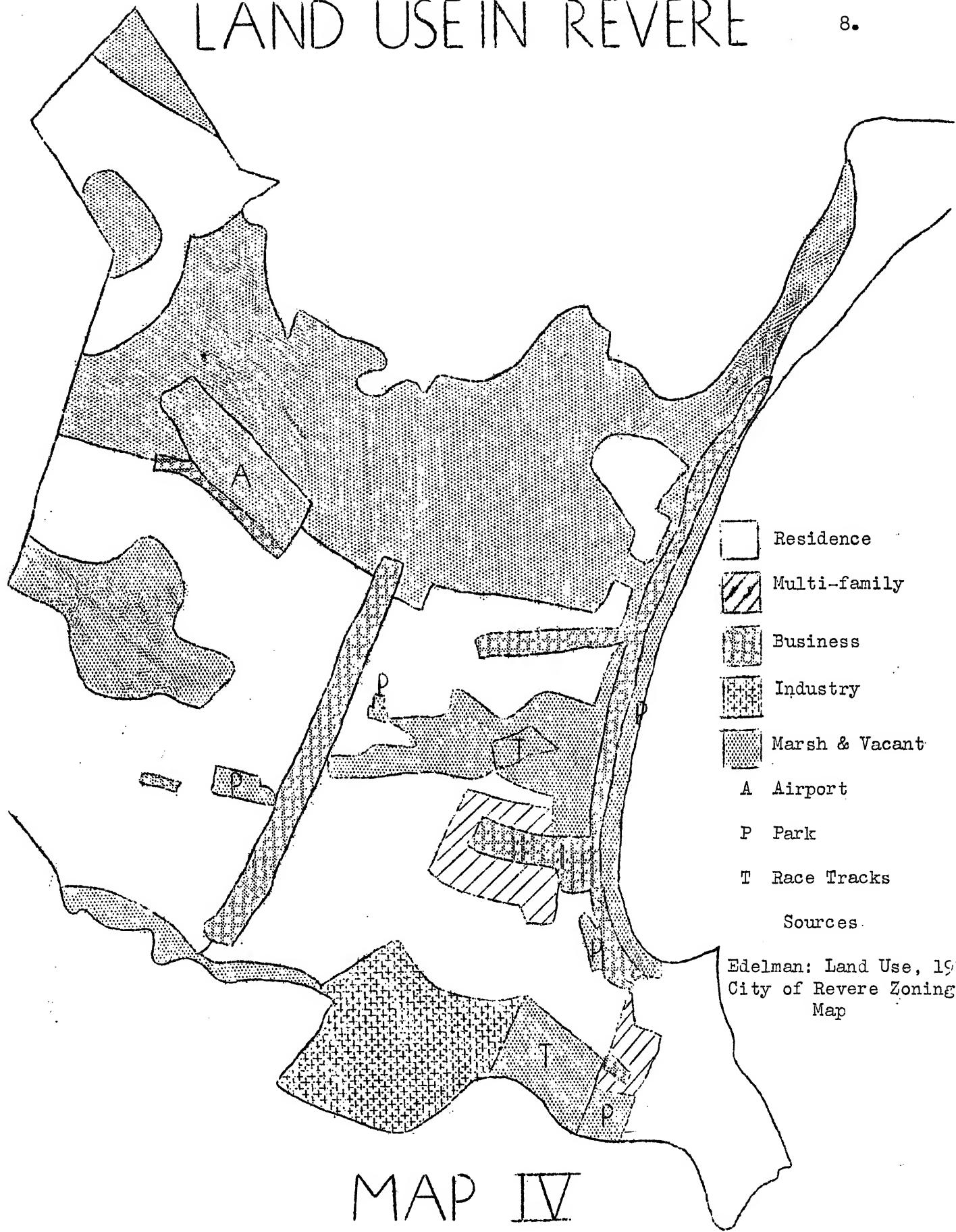
The city is bounded on the east by a wide and long strip of beach, formerly covered by fine white sand. This beach has attracted out-of-towners who come for a days' excursion or for longer vacations. It has also attracted the amusements and concessions which face the beach.

From farming as the sole basic industry in its early days, Revere has switched to a more diversified employment picture. Truck farms still exist, especially in the Malden Street area. Total acreage in farming represents only 5% of total land area, about 180 acres. Residences make up the largest single land use, yet probably make up no more than 11% of total land area.

Notable in Revere is the Wonderland Park for dog racing, and also a section of Suffolk Downs for horse racing. These attract thousands of people in the summer; their total impact on the city would be hard to measure. They do, however, contribute some revenue to the city. Directly

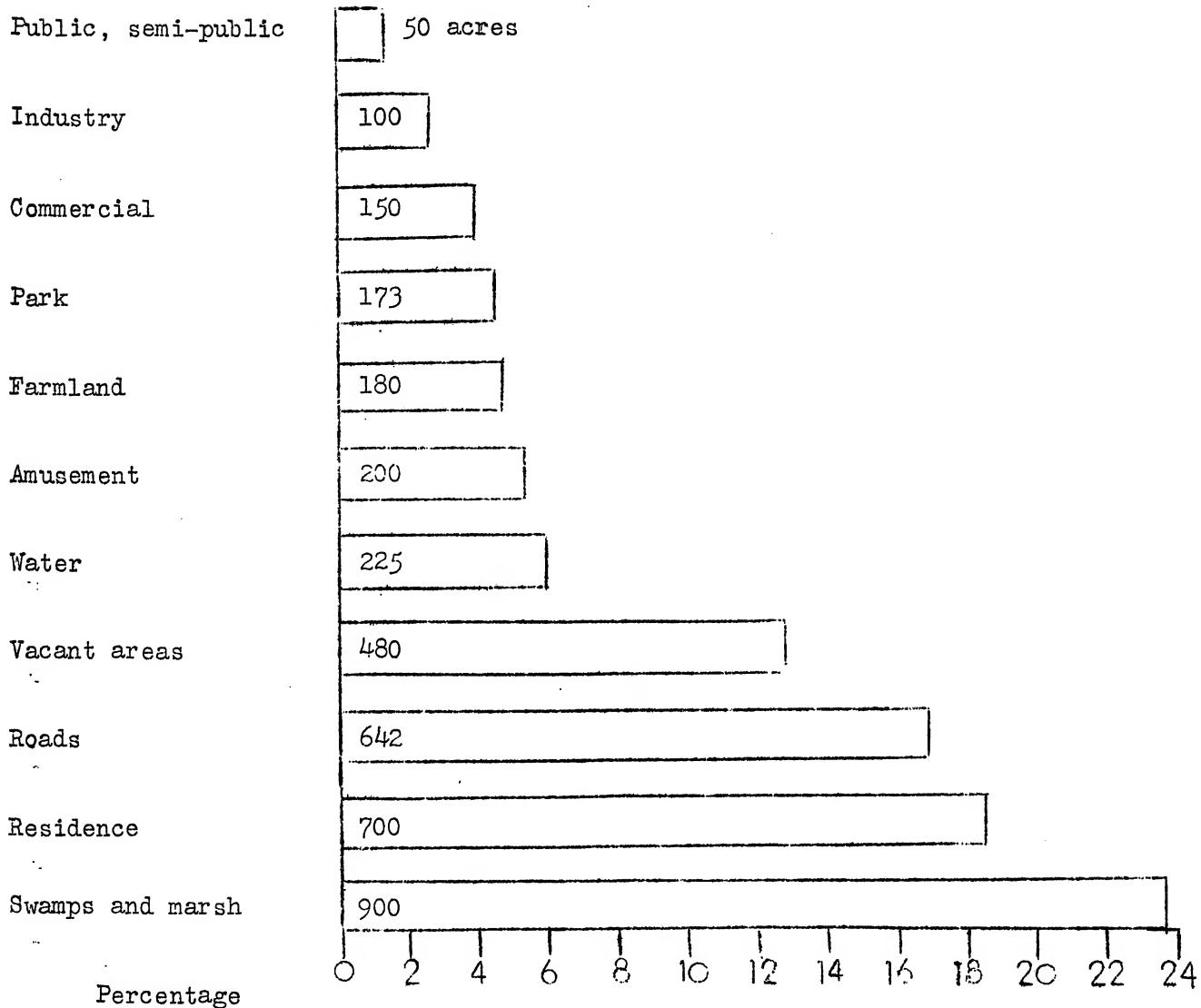
# LAND USE IN REVERE

8.



# LAND USE IN REVERE, 1952

(ESTIMATED)



Total land area: 3800 acres, 6 square miles.

## Sources:

Edleman: Land Use Estimate, 1937  
 Building and population changes.  
 Manufacturing and business figures.

## CHART II

they pay real estate taxes and license fees. Indirectly, they attract liquor and food business, which also pay taxes and licenses to the city. Very few Revere residents, however, find employment at the tracks and these amusements certainly entail extra expense to the city.

Oil storage and refining constitute an important factor in the financial picture of Revere, though few residents work there and the industry needs few local supplies. These enterprises are located along the Lee-Burbank Highway in the southern part of Revere. Also in Revere are a large and new Studebaker parts warehouse, a spice and seasonings mill, printing firms, and the producers of sun glasses and optical frames.

TABLE II

## EMPLOYMENT DISTRIBUTION OF REVERE RESIDENTS BY INDUSTRY, 1940

Extractive	109
Construction	603
Textiles and Apparel	491
Chemicals, petroleum and coal products	115
Iron-steel, other metals	187
Machinery, transportation equipment	578
Other mfg. industries	1949
Transportation, communication, utilities	828
Wholesale trade	460
Retail trade	2336
Services	1127
Domestic service	148
Amusement, recreation	228
Professional and related	622
Government	305
Not reported	274
	10360

The preceding table indicates how the residents of Revere were employed in 1940. The table below indicates the activities of industries and businesses within the City of Revere:

TABLE III

## COMPARATIVE FIGURES IN EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

For Manufacturing, Wholesale & Retail Sales,  
Service & Amusement Concerns in Revere

<u>Manufacturing:</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1949</u>
Number of establishments	16	23
Employees	391	416
Annual wages	\$691,783	\$821,825
Value of products	\$3,041,092	\$3,771,430
<u>Wholesale:</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1948</u>
Number of establishments	9	20
Employees	268	283 (plus 10 proprietors)
Annual wages	\$445,000	---
Value of sales	\$12,114,000	\$39,182,000
<u>Retail:</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1948</u>
Number of establishments	455	412
Employees	859	838 (plus 320 prop, 278 part time)
Annual wages	\$697,000	\$2,080,000
Value of sales	\$7,730,000	\$21,440,000
<u>Service:</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>1948</u>
Number of establishments	152	127
Employees	143	106 (plus 123 part time)
Proprietors	151	134
Annual wages	\$116,000	\$241,000
Value of services	\$538,000	\$1,034,000

Amusements: (not included in Service) 1948

Number of Establishments	61
Number of employees	Mar:223 July:974 Nov:238
Proprietors	22
Payroll, annual	\$1,137,000 One week, July: \$46,620
Receipts	\$5,956,000
Taxes	\$ 215,000

Sources: New England Statistical Abstracts - 1939, 1946  
 US Census of Business, Wholesale Trade - 1948  
 US Census of Business, Retail Trade - 1948  
 US Census of Manufacturing - 1948  
 US Census of Service Establishments - 1948  
 Division of Statistics, Dept of Labor & Industries,  
 Commonwealth of Massachusetts - 1949

## C. TRANSPORTATION

Revere is situated midway between Boston and the North Shore. Consequently, since 1803 when the Salem Turnpike (now Broadway) was built several important roads and railroads have formed barriers between sections of the city, and have tended to divide the city. Similarly, in the summer heavy East-West traffic to and from the beach and race tracks snarls Revere streets, segments the city, and increases the incidence of traffic accidents. Route C-1 leads Southbound traffic from the Newburyport Turnpike through Revere to the Mystic River Bridge and the Summer Tunnel. Route A-1 skirts the shore as an alternate of Route 1. The result of this traffic, besides the blighting of neighborhoods and residences on these heavily traveled streets, shows itself in Revere's automobile insurance rates. For years Revere, Boston and Chelsea have shared the dubious honors of highest rates.

From 1874 until shortly before World War II the Boston, Revere Beach and Lynn Railroad (narrow gauge) played an important part in trans-

portation to and from Revere. The Boston Elevated Railway Company served the community, as well as three other bus lines. Today, the Metropolitan Transit Authority has taken over the operation of the Boston Elevated Railway while five other bus companies operate in or through Revere.

Since January, 1952 a change was made in transportation which may affect the future of Revere. The MTA rapid transit line was extended from Maverick Station, East Boston to Orient Heights near the East Boston-Revere line. All street cars were replaced by trackless trolleys, giving Revere quicker and quieter service. This may enhance Revere's attraction as a residential community.

#### D. POPULATION

From 1860 to 1950, the U.S. Census has shown a steady increase in the population of Revere, except for the year 1940 when there was a slight decrease. Between the years 1940 and 1950, there was an increase of 6.9 per cent or a total gain of 2,358. Below is a list of the population figures from 1860 until the present.

TABLE IV

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1860	933	-----
1870	1,197	+ 28.4
1880	2,263	+ 89.0
1890	5,668	+ 150.0
1900	10,395	+ 83.5
1910	18,219	+ 75.5
1920	28,823	+ 58.4
1930	35,680	+ 23.8
1940	34,405	- 3.6
1950	36,763	+ 6.9

One of the factors accounting for the almost steady increase in the population of Revere before 1930 is immigration. Previous to

1900 a large Irish immigration had settled in Revere, as in the whole Boston area. However, shortly after the turn of the century the number of Irish and other foreign-born residents from the British Empire was dwarfed by the influx of Russian (Jewish) and Italian peoples. By 1920 the Jewish percentage of the foreign population had reached its peak and by 1930 was definitely on the way down. From 1910 through 1940, the date of our latest figures, Italians constituted the largest percentage of Revere's foreign-born. Although foreign-born peoples made up 48.8% of Revere's population in 1930, by 1940 the per cent of foreign-born was 22.3%. Chart III shows the origin of the foreign-born in Revere.

## ORIGIN OF FOREIGN-BORN, 1940

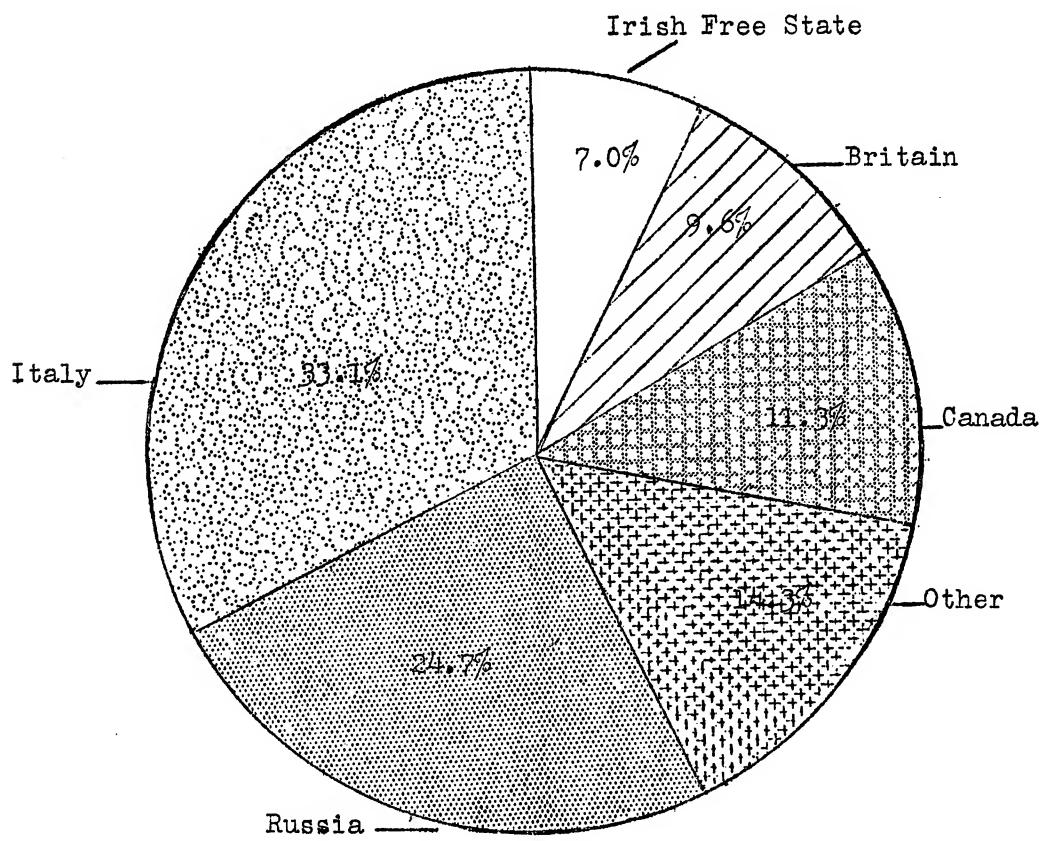
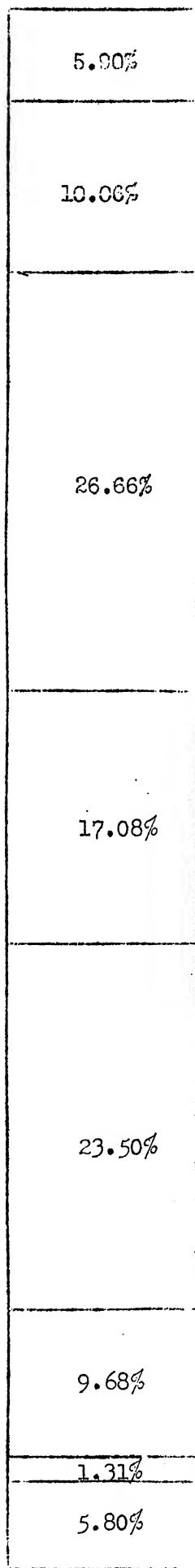


CHART III

# CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT, 1940

REVERE →



MASSACHUSETTS →

LABORERS

DOMESTIC AND  
OTHER SERVICE

OPERATIVES

CRAFTSMEN

CLERICAL AND  
SALES

PROPRIETORS AND  
MANAGERS

SEMI-PROFESSIONAL

PROFESSIONAL

3.38%

12.56%

26.91%

13.65%

21.19%

9.33%

1.25%

7.77%

15.

CHART IV

In 1940, 64.13 per cent of the total population of Revere was naturalized, 6.02 per cent had their first papers, and 20.42 per cent was alien. Comparable figures for the State of Massachusetts were 58.44 per cent naturalized, 7.14 per cent had their first papers, and 24.36 per cent was alien.

The population increase between 1940 and 1950 actually indicates a decreasing trend. Population in Massachusetts increased 8.7% in this same period and there was a net movement out of Revere. This emigration was offset by a large number of births:

TABLE V

EXPLANATION OF INCREASE IN POPULATION, 1940-1950

3536 - balance of births over deaths, 1940-1950

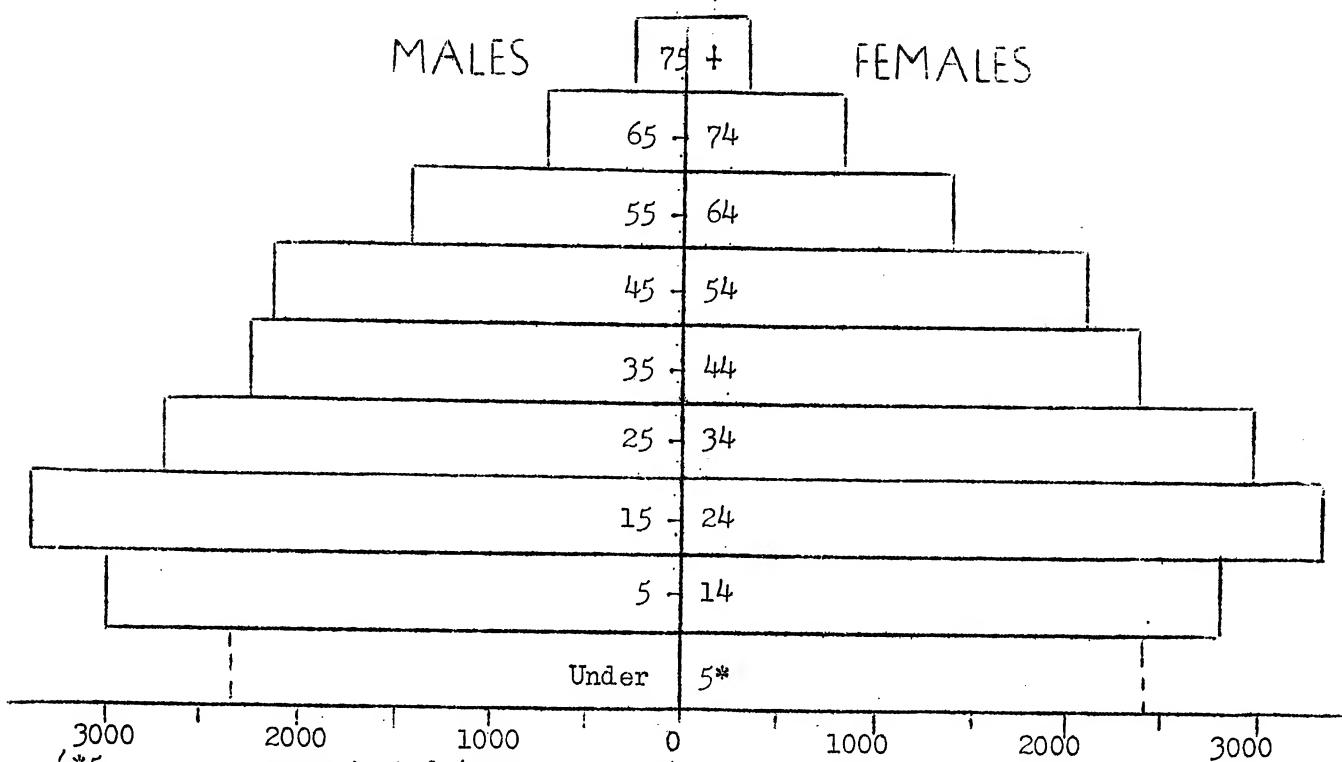
1178 - outmigration (net)

2358 - Net Increase (6.9%)

Consequently, the State Planning Board estimates Revere's population will decline to 34,000 in 1955 and to 30,000 by 1970.

As regards the distribution of the population of Revere, the greatest concentration exists in the area bounded by the Revere Beach Parkway on the south, Beach Street on the north, Lee-Burbank Highway on the west, and North Shore Road on the east. A lesser degree of density is found in the Beachmont section, the lower Revere Street section, and in the areas within a half mile of Broadway west of Malden Street. A still smaller degree of concentration but a uniform coverage exists in the Point of Pines area and at Oak Island. All other areas are very irregularly settled. A large number of Italian people are concentrated in the Revere Street and Malden Street sections. The Jewish population is concentrated in Ward II, where all three synagogues are located.

# POPULATION PYRAMID, 1940



(\*5 year group projected 'dotted lines' to indicate equivalent 10 year span.)

## CHART V

### AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, REVERE, 1940

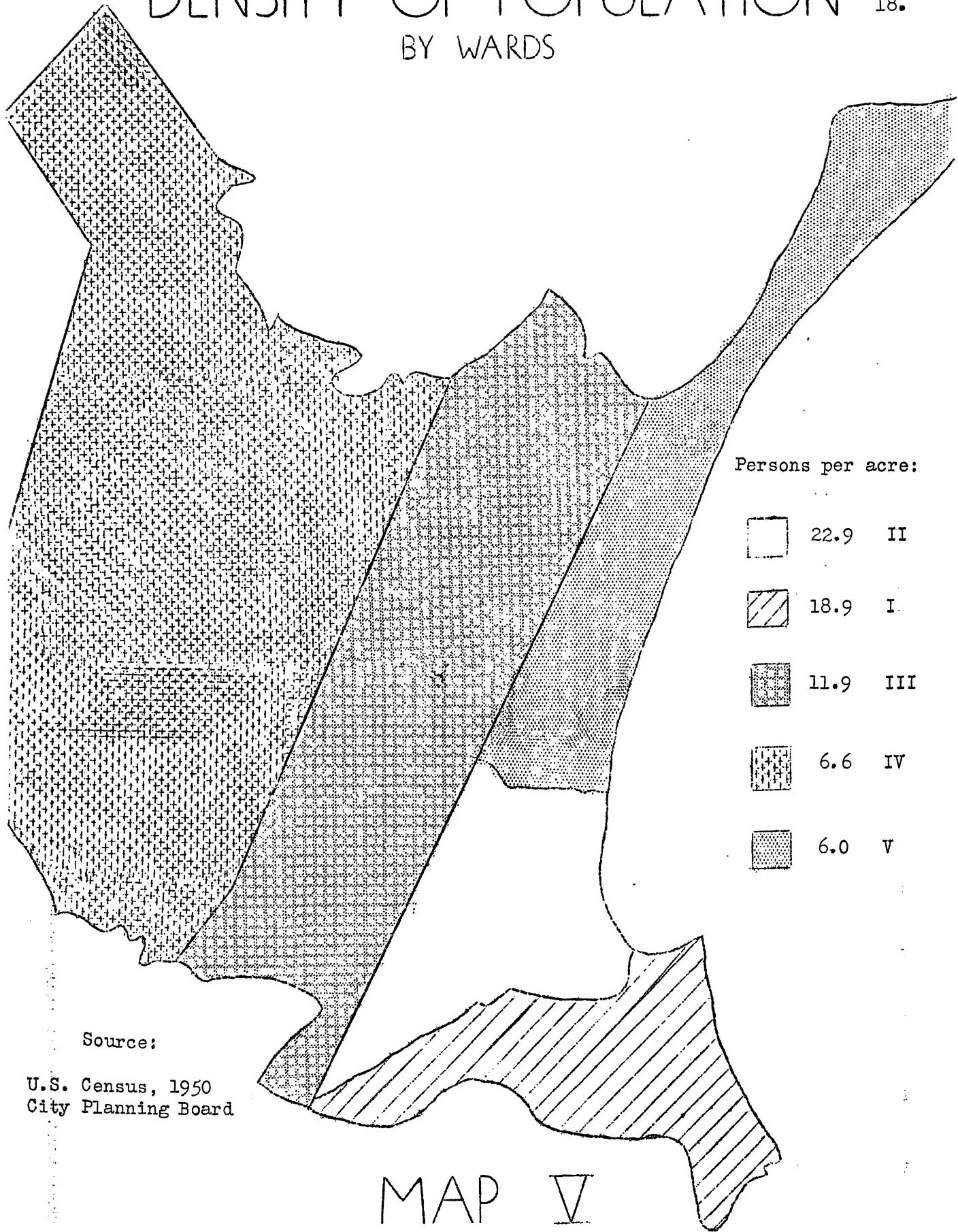
AGE	TOTAL	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
All Ages	34,405	17,071	49.62	17,334	50.38
Over 75	554	241	0.7	313	0.9
65-74	1,534	718	2.1	816	2.4
55-64	2,818	1,416	4.1	1,402	4.1
45-54	4,232	2,133	6.2	2,099	6.1
35-44	4,625	2,251	6.6	2,374	6.9
25-34	5,696	2,728	7.9	2,968	8.6
15-24	6,751	3,405	9.9	3,346	9.7
5-14	5,826	3,004	8.7	2,822	8.2
Under 5	2,369	1,175	3.4	1,194	3.5

## TABLE VI

Source: U.S. Census, 1940

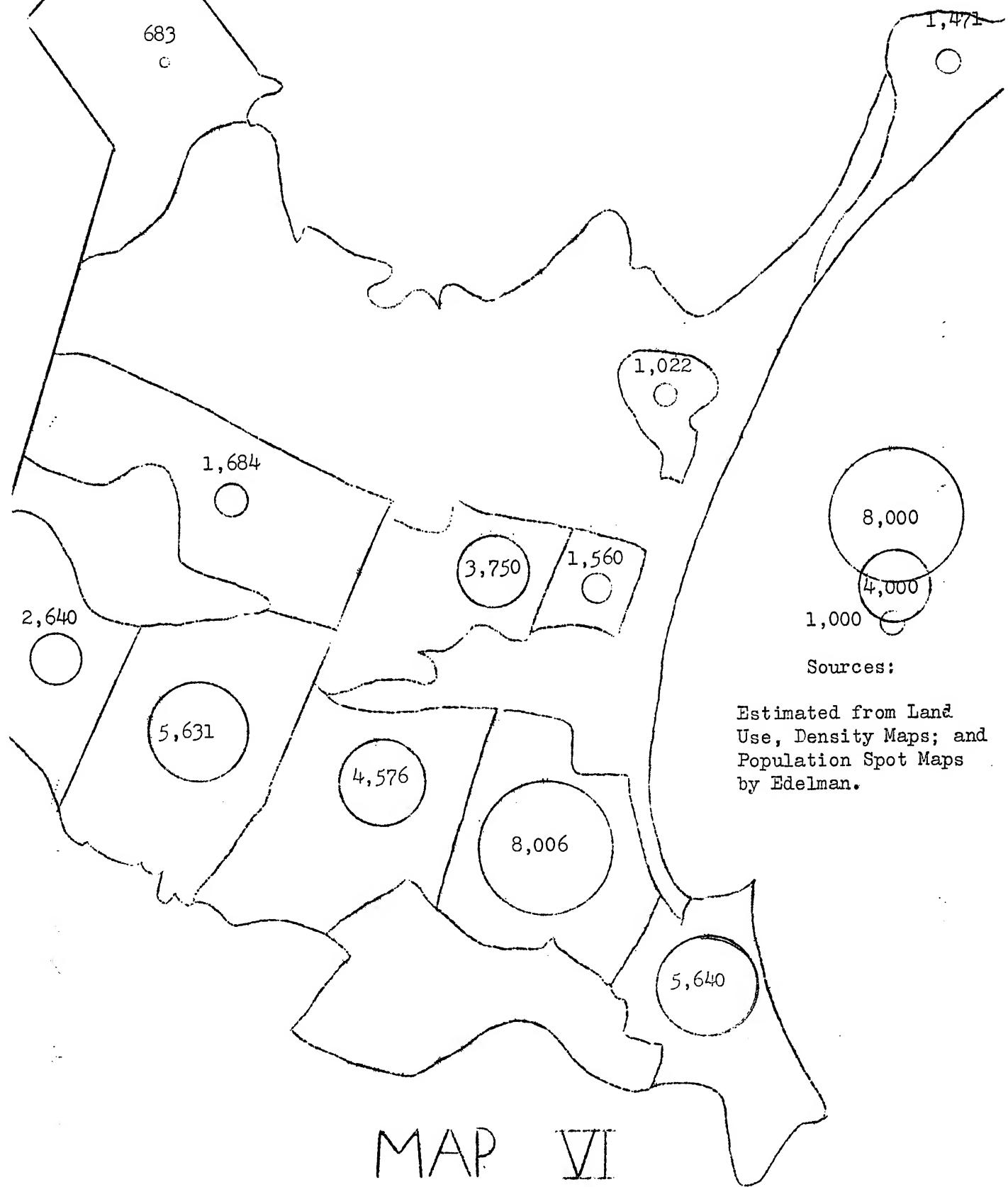
# DENSITY OF POPULATION BY WARDS

18.



# CENTERS OF POPULATION (ESTIMATED)

19.



### E. HOUSING

The housing situation in Revere represents one of the City's greatest problems; yet, it is not an ignored problem. Much has been done since the war to improve the status of housing, and to provide homes for veterans and others to live in. Much of the existing housing is in poor condition and is crowded together, whereas Revere has adequate room for expansion. From previous figures, it is clear that Revere is primarily a residential city.

In the Beachmont area, tiny and flimsy summer cottages and large old frame homes of good construction stand side by side. Some of the better homes have been made into apartments. Many of the cottages have been used for year-round residence. In Ward II, there are many triple-deckers, the brick apartments and combination store-residence buildings. Revere Street section has both the summer cottage type of residences and the triple-deckers squeezed together. Much of this building is decadent, needing replacement. Oak Island again has cheap, crowded bungalow construction. This area is most in need of redevelopment.

Throughout the rest of Revere houses are one or two family for the most part. In Point of Pines generally better constructed single-family homes are found and the same is true in North Revere. Around Malden Street speculative building has resulted in run-down houses, though mostly single-family. This area is not so crowded, allowing some gardening.

Table VII shows the condition of housing in 1940 by wards. There were then 5,694 structures, representing 9,226 dwelling units.

TABLE VII  
CONDITION OF HOUSING IN 1940, BY WARDS

	I	II	III	IV	V
Number reporting:	1421	1983	1857	2030	1206
Number with more than 1.5 persons per room:	31	43	114	84	34
Number needing major repair:	32	64	32	215	185
Number with no bath:	120	74	169	158	230
Number with no bath and/or needing repair:	148	137	189	336	360

On housing, Revere ranked 45th out of 56 towns in Metropolitan Boston, based upon the 1940 Census and United Community Service figures. The greater preponderance of two-family homes is revealed in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII  
TYPE OF DWELLING UNITS, REVERE, 1940

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>% LOCAL</u>	<u>% IN STATE</u>	<u>% OF STATE</u>
Single Family Homes:	3400	36.85	40.89	.68
Two Family Structures:	2866	32.15	24.92	.97
Three or More Family:	2641	28.63	31.76	.68
One - Four Family with business:	195	2.11	2.24	.71

Since the war Revere has built 1200 dwelling units. Of these there were 970 single-family homes, in the \$9000 class, 165 duplex and 65 two-family dwellings, valued at \$20,000 each. There have been many dwelling units built especially for veteran's housing. In the Cushman Avenue area 206 units have been built, with building lots larger than

general through Revere, and the homes above the average price and appearance. In 1951 there were built new residences at an estimated cost of \$1,179,575 by private builders, and \$1,901,071 by Federal housing funds.

#### F. Schools and Educational Status of Population in Revere

Revere has sixteen public schools including a high school. The Church of the Immaculate Conception has a parochial school located in the center of the city adjacent to the public high school. The parochial school serves grades 1 through 12.

One notices that there are many school buildings in the Revere school system. Nine of the sixteen are grammar schools which handle only grades 1 through 6, or in some cases fewer grades. These are distributed through town enabling small children to get to school fairly easily. Still, the city necessarily must pay much to heat and maintain these buildings and as a result Revere has a very high percentage of its tax spent for schools.

TABLE IX

#### REVERE SCHOOL STATISTICS, Compared with Chelsea

	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Bldgs.</u>	<u>% Tax for Schools</u>	<u>Cost/Pupil</u>
Revere:	5633 (1950)	264	21.4	17	39%	\$225.
Chelsea:	5224 (1949)	200	26.1	6	31%	\$206.

Thus, though Revere has a lower pupil-teacher ratio, which is desirable, the amount paid for education is much above what Chelsea pays.

The total enrollment in Revere schools is 6255; 5615 in public schools, and 640 in the parochial school (as of 1950). School attendance

## SCHOOLS IN REVERE

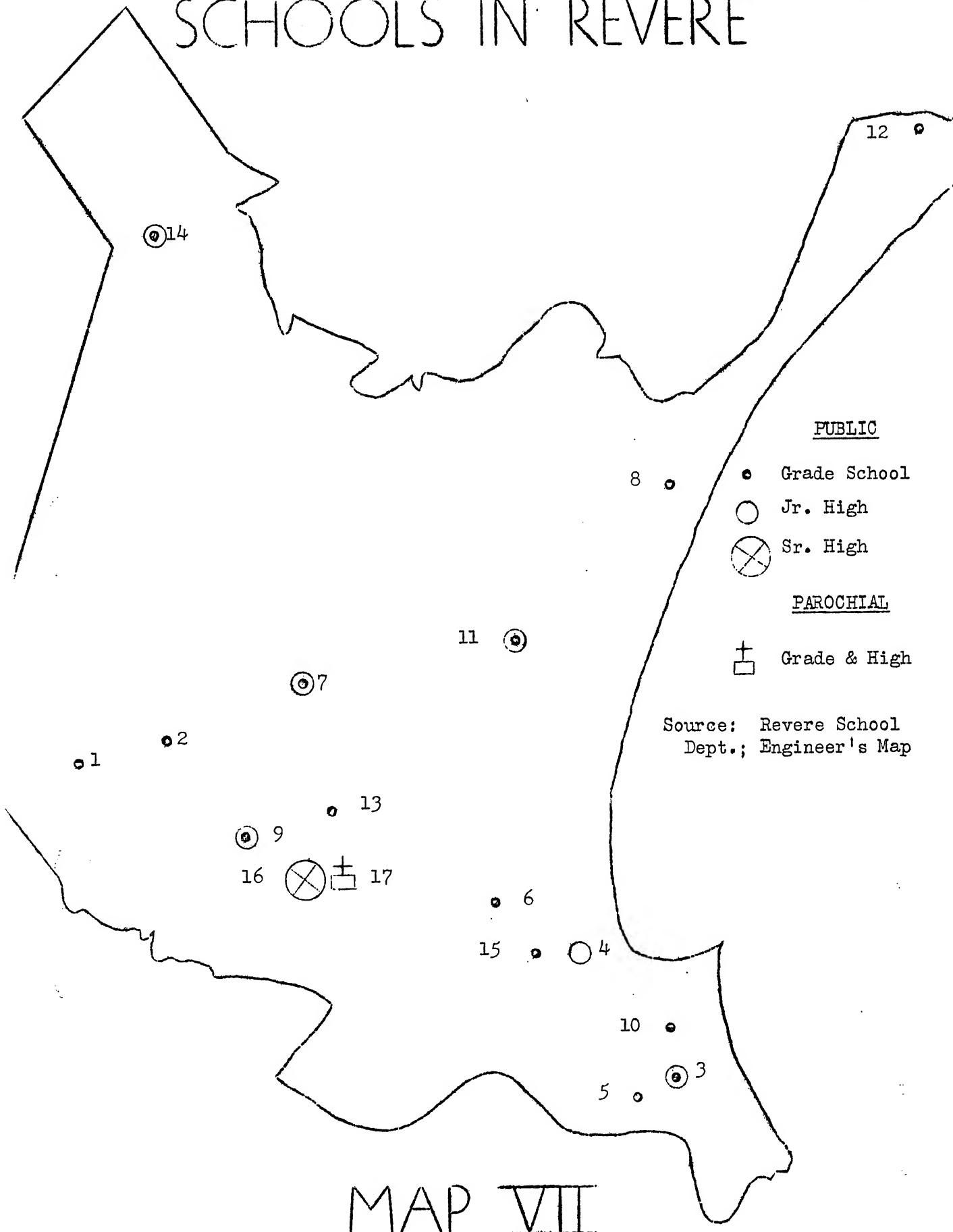


TABLE X

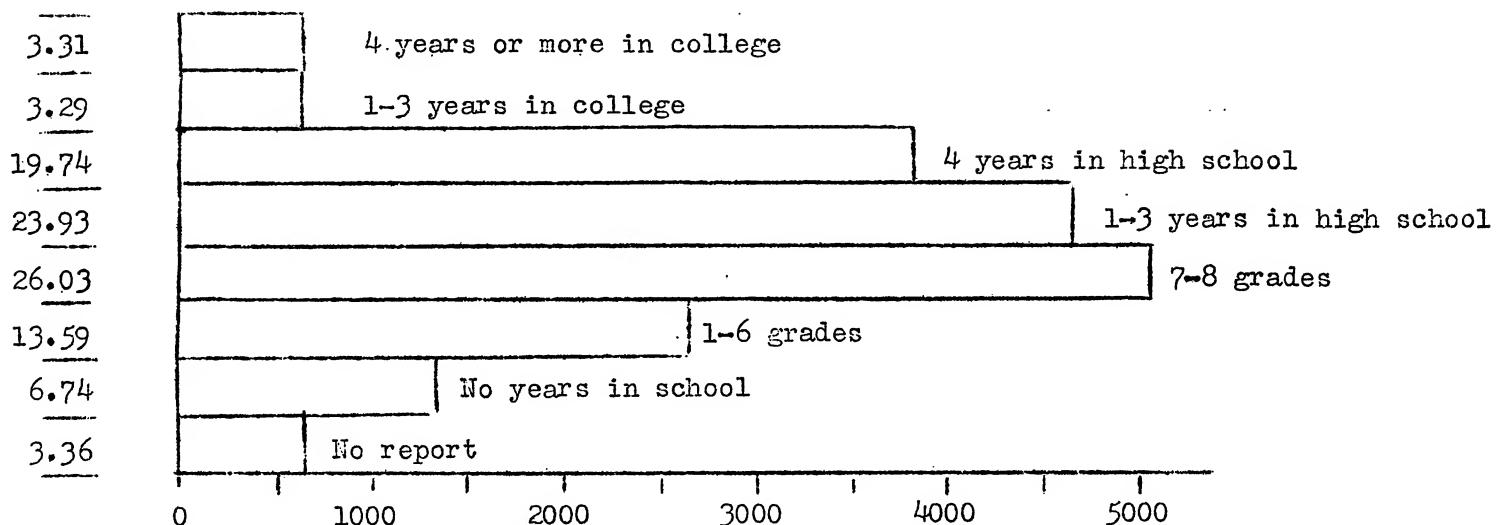
## SCHOOLS AND ENROLLMENT IN REVERE, 1952

	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Gain or Loss Since 1937</u>
1. Max Achenbach, Park Ave.	1-4	109	Loss
2. Cassandra M. Barrows, Mountain Ave.	1-6	212	Loss
3. Mary T. Ronan, Bradstreet Ave.	1-8	313	Same
4. James A. Garfield, Garfield Ave.	7-9	360	Loss
5. Julia Ward Howe, Crescent Ave.	1-6	229	Loss
6. Liberty, Franklin Ave.	1-6	403	Loss
7. Abraham Lincoln, Tuckerman St.	1-8	661	Loss
8. Carl Willard Mabie, Oak Island Road	1-4	93	Loss
9. McKinley School, Yeaman St.	1-8	581	Loss
10. Louis Pasteur, Leverett Ave.	1-5	111	Loss
11. Paul Revere School, Revere St.	1-9	618	Loss
12. T. Roosevelt, Whitin Ave.	1-6	146	Gain
13. Shurtleff, School St.	1-6	195	Loss
14. Henry Waitt, Salem St.	1-8	138	Same
15. Wolcott, North Shore Rd.	1-6	326	Loss
16. Jr. & Sr. High School Beach Street	9-12	1130	Loss
<u>Parochial School</u>			
17. Immaculate Conception	1-12	640	(1950) Loss
All Schools:	6255	8642 - 1937	

The only school which has gained in last 15 years is Pt. of Pines School. The neighboring Oak Island school shows slight loss, but two of its grades were transferred, so it would register gain also. This drop in enrollment occurs, despite the fact that net births over deaths represented a population increase in the last census.

Source: School Department, Revere Catholic Directory

# EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT OF REVERE RESIDENTS OVER 25



Source: U. S. Census, 1940

CHART VI

# EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN REVERE COMPARED WITH CHELSEA

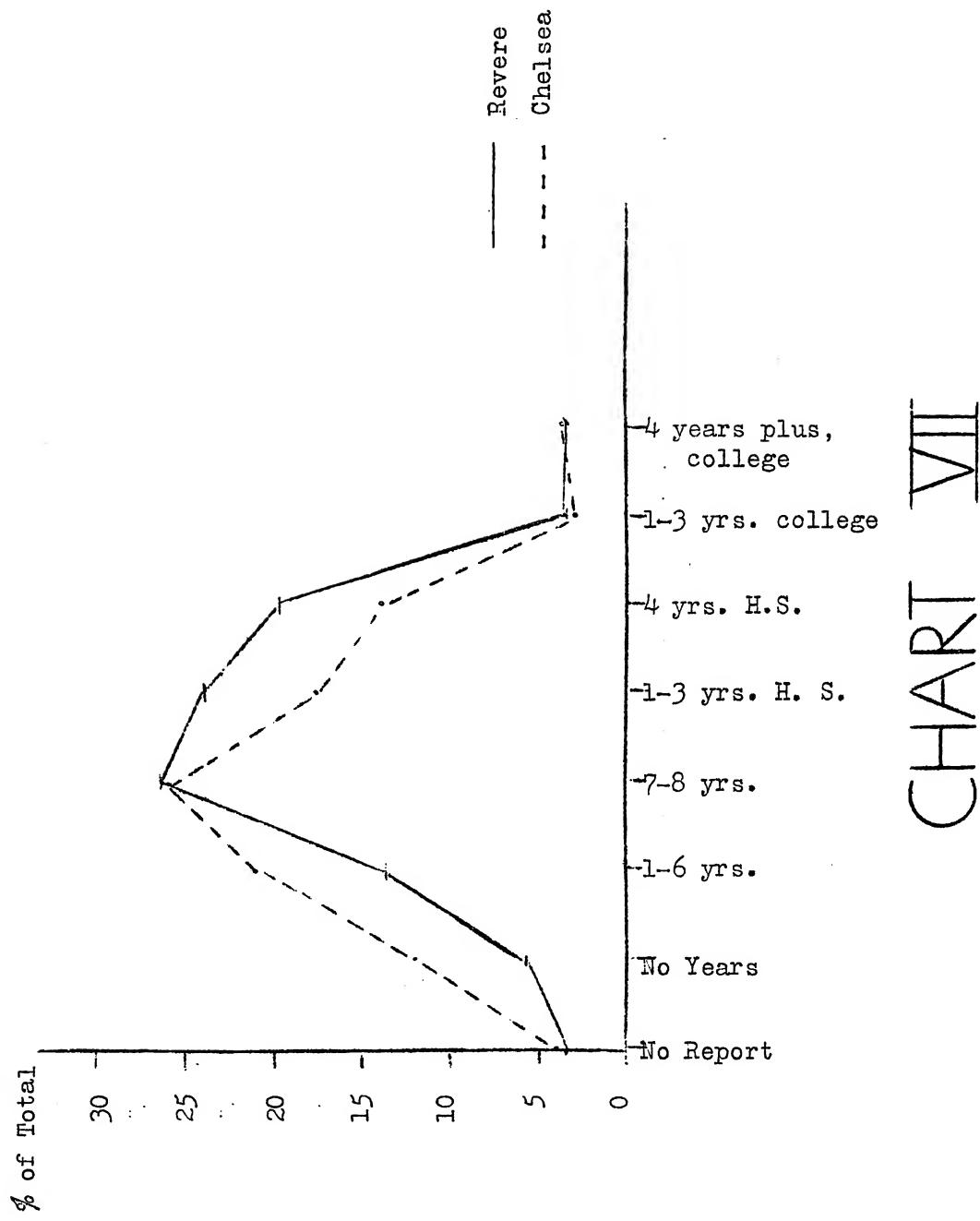


CHART VII

in public schools showed 901 children between the ages of 5-7 attending school, 840 not attending; and only 13 children 7-16 who were not attending school, 4,672 who were attending.

Revere shows a slightly higher educational level than Chelsea, but the greatest number of persons reported attending 7th or 8th grades of school. One out of five had completed high school and 6 1/2% had attended college. A slightly higher percentage had never attended school. The median indicated one year of high schooling.

#### G. Social Factors in Revere

1. Vital Statistics: Revere, in common with other urban centers, shows a declining birth rate. In the years 1941-43, the birth rate averaged 20.2 births per thousand population; by 1946, the figure had fallen to 14.5; and in 1949, it had reached 10.9, or just about half the rate of the early forties. Despite this rapid decline, the Census Bureau attributes Revere's slight increase in population to the net increase of births over deaths. Total births in 1949 were 402.

Meanwhile, the death rate remained somewhat stabilized. From 1946 to 1949, it was close to 7 deaths per thousand population, a relatively low figure. (Chelsea: 10.8 in 1948) Infant mortality, however, was very high: 32.4 deaths per 1000 births 1941-45, ranking Revere 42nd out of 56 Metropolitan Boston communities. Possibly the Revere Memorial Hospital will bring this infant mortality down to a more satisfactory figure.

2. Social Breakdown: Revere ranks among the lowest of the communities of Metropolitan Boston in such factors as economic security, social breakdown involving children, tuberculosis and poor housing.

There is evidence of a severe juvenile delinquency problem. From 1942 to 1948, Revere youths 7-16 had 7.4 court appearances, per year, per 1000 of their number. In 1949 this increased to 8.8 appearances per 1000 children (or 41 appearances), and 52 appearances in 1950 (11.1 cases per 1000).

3. Social Agencies: Revere does not have the number nor the variety of social agencies which are available in the central city areas. Some of the downtown agencies cover Revere, as for example, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Family Society, and the Visiting Nurses Association. The City Welfare Department, at this writing, is understaffed and cannot adequately do its job. The city has Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts; however, these generally are unable to meet the problems of delinquency, appealing mainly to middle-class groups.

Fortunately, the citizens of Revere are awakened to these problems. There is being constructed a large Jewish Community Center, which will have a gym, meeting and game rooms, as well as facilities for Hebrew School. The Youth Commission has done an outstanding job the last few years in arranging sports events, leagues and supervised play. The community is able to take advantage of the gyms in five public schools and the parochial school. Eventually, the Youth Commission hopes to have four community centers, for different parts of the city, to serve the needs of both youth and adults.

4. Parks and Recreation: Revere has four parks, with a combined area of almost 30 acres. There are 22 playgrounds, supervised by the staff of the Youth Commission. Many of these are small. Summer activities are sponsored by the Youth Commission, the staff is increased from forty to sixty in the summer.

The Revere Beach reservation and the amusement park constitute the chief outlet for recreation during the summer. The beach reservation is a long strip of land stretching from the Ocean Pier, Beachmont, to the Point of Pines. This area and the streets nearby are administered by the Metropolitan District Commission. Between the reservation boulevard and Ocean Avenue are located many small amusement stands and several larger "rides". Also within the area is a large brick bathhouse operated by the M.D.C. for public use. The boulevard, walks, beach and other appurtenances controlled by the Commission are well-designed and maintained. Most of the privately-owned amusements are, on the other hand, ill-constructed, unkempt and often in poor taste.

The amusement park and the beach provide recreation for citizens of Revere, they also bring in revenue to the city. Tax assessments are high and since the M.D.C. supplies most of the services to the area the beach costs Revere little. The area has attracted many beer-parlors, liquor stores and cheaper restaurants and food-stands. Licensing these provides more income. Few local people are employed, however, and most "rides" and concessions are operated by a single person, or by a man and his wife. The M.D.C. does make a policy of hiring local labor for its work crews.

5. Hospital: Since 1948, Revere has had a hospital although for eight years previously there was a private hospital. A group of Revere doctors formed a corporation and took over the running of the Revere Memorial Hospital, a private, but non-profit organization now. Its support comes through subscriptions, but it serves the citizens and the city patients. The hospital boasts 68 beds, plus 14 nursery beds.

TABLE XI

REVERE COMPARED WITH 55 OTHER METROPOLITAN BOSTON COMMUNITIES  
ON SEVERAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Cases/1000</u>	<u>Date</u>
Aid to Dependent Children	50	14.6	1940
Assessed valuation/capita	48	(\$1165)	1940
Relief load	55		1940
Old Age Assistance	43		1940
Average rents paid	48	(\$28.76)	1940
Unemployed	52		1934
<b>Total Above: Economic Security</b>	<b>55</b>		
Juvenile delinquency	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	7.4	1944-48
M.S.P.C.C.	32	3.6	1943-45
Infant Mortality	42	32.4	1941-45
Tuberculosis: new cases	54	.77	1941-45
Tuberculosis: deaths	37	.27	1941-45
Housing conditions	45		1940 Census
Crowding in homes	49	+36.	1940 Census
House lacking bath	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	+88.	1940 Census

Highest favorability: rank 1. Lowest favorability: rank 56.

Revere is consistently below average, except for the last item.

Source: "56 Communities of Metropolitan Boston ranked for Selected Factors", Research Bureau, Greater Boston Community Council, 1946. (Now, United Community Services.)

#### H. Trends in Revere

Since the war there have been noteworthy citizens movements in Revere. One, of lay citizens, formed the Revere Committee for Plan E, and succeeded in having Plan E (Council-City Manager form of government) adopted by the city, effective in 1949. Since then the city has had one City Manager, who is generally believed to have done an effective job. Recently the City Planning Board has been put on a full-time basis with a resident planner and a staff. The Youth Commission has done a remarkable job.

The other movement was the formation of a hospital corporation by doctors in order to take over and run the Revere Memorial Hospital, formerly a private hospital.

These movements have aided the city. One man mentioned that because of the new government, city employees pay has been increased, and much needed textbooks for the schools have been provided. The total impact has not been measured.

Still there are many unfavorable social factors. Few people are moving into Revere; yet of those living in Revere very few indicated an intention to move out. Of the Jewish answers 26.8% indicated a desire to move, but only 20% of Protestants and 17.7% of Catholics similarly indicated an intention to move. Taxes and insurance rates are high in Revere; and delinquency remains a serious problem. The racetracks and the amusement areas have increased in business volume since the war; do they constitute a threat to decent living in Revere?

## II. CHURCH ANALYSIS

### The Churches in Revere

According to latest information, there are eighteen churches serving the citizens of Revere. Nine of these serve the Protestants, six the Roman Catholics and three are Jewish Congregations. These churches are scattered throughout the city; especially are the Roman Catholic churches distributed through the city. The Jewish synagogues, however, are located entirely in the southern section of the city, in Beachmont or Ward II. The majority of Protestant churches are bunched near the center of the city.

If the population were divided equally among these eighteen churches, there would be over 2000 communicants per church. However, we will see that this is not the case.

#### A. Roman Catholic Churches

The first Catholic church established in Revere was the Church of the Immaculate Conception, founded in 1888, about the time the Trinity Congregational and the First Methodist Churches were founded. It is the one Catholic church located near the center of the city, and is on Beach Street not far from four Protestant churches. Today, Immaculate Conception is the second largest church in the city. Its membership is slightly over 5000, which includes all baptized children.

Immaculate Conception provides the parochial school for children of Revere. In 1950, the school enrolled 440 pupils in Grades 1-8, and another 200 pupils in its high school. This enrollment has not changed substantially from 1937, for the capacity of the buildings limit

# CHURCHES OF REVERE

33.

15 C

2  
1  
3  
4  
10  
17 Δ Δ  
18

9 □ 12 ○ 14 ○

7 □

MAP VIII

## PROTESTANT

- 1 Methodist
- 2 St. Ann's Episc.
- 3 First Cong.
- 4 First Baptist
- 5 St. Paul's Episc.
- 6 Trinity Cong.
- 7 Bay Shore Chapel
- 8 Community Cong.
- 9 Pentecostal Ch. Assembly

## ROMAN CATHOLIC

- 10 Im. Conception
- 11 Our Lady of Lourdes
- 12 St. Anthony's
- 13 St. John Vianney
- 14 St. Theresa
- 15 St. Mary

## JEWISH

- 16 B'nai Israel
- 17 Ahavas Achim
- 18 Tifereth Israel

16 Δ

5 □ 11 ○  
6

8 □

13 ○

increases. Nineteen sisters and an administrator constitute the staff. This represents a teacher-pupil ratio of 1 to 34, much worse than the public school ratio of 1 to 23, but very close to the national ratio of Catholic schools - 1 teacher to 33.5 pupils.

Two new Catholic churches have been established in Revere in the last five years: St. Mary's of the Assumption, established in the Malden Street area in 1948 and St. John Vianney, dedicated in 1950 for the Point of Pines area. These two churches have memberships of about 2600 and 800 respectively.

The Italian language church, St. Anthony's, on Revere Street claims a constituency of 18,500, or over 3300 families. Many of these communicants must come from Chelsea, East Boston, or Everett; the nature of such a "national" church precludes parish boundaries. This figure also may include some communicants included in other parishes, and thus counted twice. The size of this church is amazing to Protestants accustomed to churches of 500 to 2000 or even much smaller. St. Anthony's is served customarily by four curates and a priest.

Other Roman Catholic churches are St. Theresa's, established in 1937, on Revere Street not far from St. Anthony's, and Our Lady of Lourdes in the Beachmont area.

These six Catholic churches serve a constituency of 32,897 baptized persons, of which perhaps 23,000 live in Revere. The U. S. Religious Census of 1936 indicated that there were 20,132 Roman Catholics, or 57% of the total population. The 5% sample, which was made in conjunction with this report, shows about 63% of the population Catholic, or perhaps 23,200 persons. The growth is probably due to losses

on the part of the Jewish population and in-migration of Catholics.

The Catholic churches of Revere are actively serving the youth of Revere. The gymnasium of the parochial school is used for basketball and for teen-age dances during the winter months. All are invited to make use of these facilities. The Catholic Youth Organization is active in Revere.

#### B. Jewish Congregations

In 1940, there were five Jewish congregations in Revere. Today there are only three. One of these three, Congregation B'Nai Israel, is liberal minded, and is at present in a transition from Conservative to Reformed Judaism. The other two synagogues, Tifereth Israel and Ahavas Achim, are both orthodox in their orientation.

In the summer each synagogue has an attendance increase of about 100%, it was estimated by the president of one congregation. The influx of summer residents then seems to be largely Jewish. This may indicate why summer attendance does not increase in the Protestant churches.

The Jewish groups at present are organizing and building a Jewish Community Center which is intended to serve all the citizens of Revere. The building, now about 60% complete, is located on Nahant Avenue, near Tifereth Israel. The center will have a gymnasium, meeting rooms, game rooms, and will house the Hebrew school in the afternoon.

The Jewish population in Revere is diminishing rapidly. In 1936, there were 9,365 Jewish people according to the U. S. Religious Census, yet the 5% sample showed only about 4500 Jewish residents, and the strongest desire to leave Revere of any religious group.

### C. The Pentecostal Christian Assembly

This church seems to be the "converting agency" between Catholicism and Protestantism. With approximately 75 members, mostly Italian converts from the Roman Catholic Church, this church has claimed to have the "spirit" which traditional Protestantism may have lost. It has within the last ten years erected a new brick structure on Coolidge Avenue and claims a full-time pastor who lives in Somerville. Unfortunately, the church governing board decided not to cooperate with the study of churches in Revere.

### D. Protestant Churches in Revere

Besides the Pentecostal Christian Assembly, there are eight Protestant churches in Revere, all of which have cooperated in this study. The churches include: three Congregational, two Baptist, two Episcopal, and one Methodist. The information about these churches comes from questionnaires, filled out by each pastor; denominational yearbooks; personal interviews and meetings; and the History of the Town of Revere, by Shurtleff.

The earliest church in Revere was gathered in 1715, when permission was granted the citizens to form their own meeting. Previously, the citizens had attended services either in Boston, Lynn, or Malden. Their meeting house had been built in 1710; it still stands today, one of the oldest church buildings in the state. In 1826, this church had become liberal in its views and was Unitarian until 1919 when the last services with a settled minister were held. Today, the building is used as a Masonic Temple.

In 1828, the Evangelical Congregational Society was formed to maintain trinitarian beliefs. In 1850, what is now the First Congregational

Church was built; remodeled in 1884 it was rededicated and renamed in 1885.

By 1868, there was a North Revere Baptist Society meeting in homes. A church was built fourteen years later, but sold in 1910 when the society disbanded. The First Baptist Church was gathered in 1877, a building was erected in 1893, and another story added in 1898. In 1915, the Bay Road Chapel was established as a mission of the First Baptist Church. The Chapel provided, and still does provide, a Sunday School for children in the Oak Island area.

The Union Evangelical Church of Beachmont was gathered in 1881. In 1885, the present edifice was dedicated; and in 1897, the society became Trinity Congregational Church. The church building has been recently renovated. From 1885 to 1906, Unitarian services were held in Beachmont, under the auspices of the American Unitarian Association.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was established as a Diocesan mission in 1885, principally to provide worship services for the summer residents of the Beachmont area. A building was provided in 1887 and dedicated in 1898. St. Ann's Episcopal Church, on Beach Street, was established in 1903. Both churches are listed as Diocesan missions and have been for many years.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in 1891. Originally, the church was located on the corner of Shirley and Nahant Streets, but in 1917 the Methodist moved to Beach Street and sold the original building to Congregation Tifereth Israel.

The Community Church of Point of Pines was established in 1929. Under the leadership of a converted Roman Catholic, a building was constructed in 1945. This is the newest of Revere's Protestant churches.

The trend in membership in these churches seems to have been

on the increase until 1940; then a sharp and continued decrease since. Chart VIII , on the following page, illustrates the sharp peak occurring about 1940, taking the churches back to the level of the 1920's. What caused this extreme change? These suggestions have been made: part-time pastors in those years; clearing the membership rolls of "dead-wood"; increased mobility of people; larger Roman Catholic population in Revere.

The attitude on the part of many Protestants in Revere is one of defeatism and pessimism. Six of the Protestant ministers said prospects were poor! Yet, five pastors stated that prospects for their particular church were good! This survey will attempt to evaluate the prospects for Protestant churches in Revere.

TABLE XII

Membership in Protestant Churches: 1940, 1950, 1952

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>Net, 1940-50</u>
First Congregational	424	173	166	251 loss
Community Church	30	73	81	43 gain
Trinity Congregational	183	164	164	19 loss
First Baptist	544	357	357	112 loss
Bay Road Chapel	--	75	45	
First Methodist	198	90	112	108 loss
St. Ann's Episcopal	280	276	276	4 loss
St. Paul's Episcopal	190	171	114	19 loss
Totals:	1849	1379	1315	470 loss

Perhaps a more revealing table is the following, giving the number of members won or lost in 1951, with the number of members required to win one member. In a healthy, growing church it would not

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES SINCE 1900

Gross Membership Figures for 10 year periods from yearbooks.

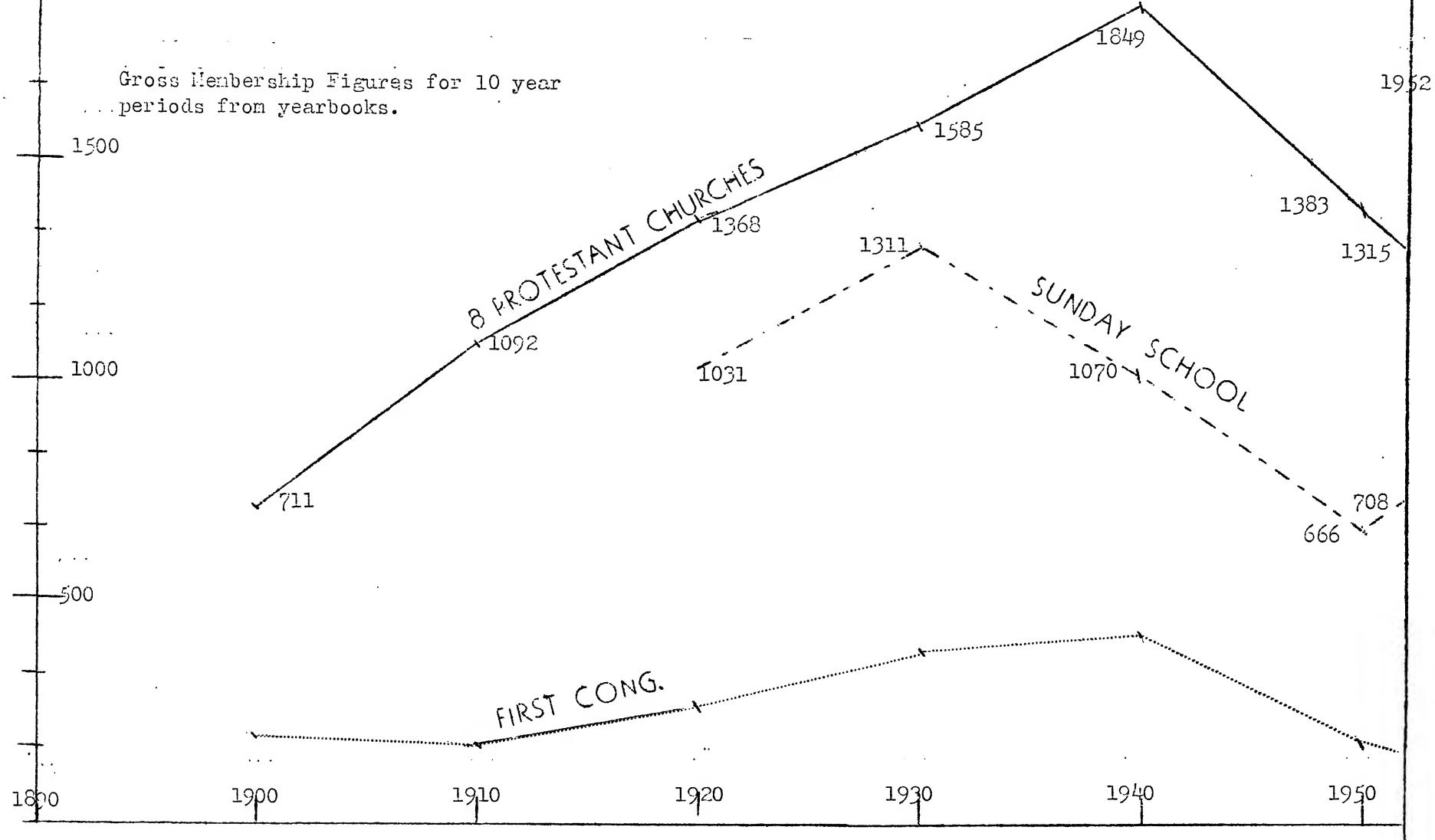


CHART VIII

take many members to win a new one. Where few members are brought into the church, the figure will be high. The figure for Chelsea, for example, shows that it took over 21 members to win one new recruit.

TABLE XIII

## GAIN OR LOSS OF MEMBERS, 1951

	<u>Members Won</u>			<u>No. Members Required to Win One</u>	<u>Number Lost</u>	<u>Net Gain Or Loss</u>
	<u>Conf.</u>	<u>Trfd.</u>	<u>Total</u>			
First Congreg.	0	0	0	--	8	8 loss
Community Church	7	2	9	8.1	1	8 gain
Trinity Congreg.	5	0	5	32.9	5	0 --
First Baptist	7	4	11	32.5	10	1 gain
Bay Road Chapel	6	0	6	12.5	0	6 gain
First Methodist	15	0	15	6.0	0	15 gain
St. Ann's Epis	13	0	11	25.0	4	7 gain
St. Paul's Epis	11	1	12	14.2	1	11 gain
Totals:	62	7	69	18.7 avg, for 7 churches	29	40 gain

Notice that there were 62 members joining by confirmation or baptism, but only 7 new members transferring into these churches. Only three of the eight churches received any members by transfer. This may indicate a basic weakness in the Revere churches: that they are not reaching the new residents of Revere, many of whom are Protestant.

Our questionnaire indicated that in the past three years, fifteen new members have been converts from the Roman Catholic church. Twelve of these were converted in 1951 alone.

Sunday School enrollment seemed to follow the same downward trend after 1940 as did church membership. In 1952, however, there

seems to be an upward trend. All but one church reports a gain in Sunday School enrollment in 1950-52. Whether this gain merely reflects the temporary increase in the birthrate in post-war years, or is a more permanent increase, cannot be determined at present.

TABLE XIV

TOTAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, 1940, 1950, 1952  
Includes Teachers and Pupils

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Gain or Loss 40-50</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>Gain or Loss 50-52</u>
First Congreg.	135	113	22 loss	84	29 loss
Community Church	35	63	28 gain	67	4 gain
Trinity Congreg.	189	118	71 loss	136	18 gain
First Baptist	290	133	157 loss	170	37 gain
Bay Road Chapel	139	71	68 loss	76	5 gain
First Methodist	68	68	0	70	2 gain
St. Ann's Episc.	107	43	64 loss	46	3 gain
St. Paul's Episc.	<u>62</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>5 loss</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>2 gain</u>
Totals:	1025	666	359 loss	708	42 gain

Of the total Sunday School enrollment in 1952, 93 are teachers. At least fifteen of these teachers live outside of Revere. Average attendance at Sunday School in the month of March, 1952, was 367 teachers and pupils. Discounting the 97 members of Cradle Roll Departments, average attendance equals just 60% of total enrollment figures.

There are eleven Young People's and Young Adult groups distributed among five churches. Adding the 178 members of these Young People's groups to the Sunday School figures, though some may be attending both groups, we find that 793 Protestant children and young people

are reached by the churches. Four of the Young People's groups meet during the week, the remainder on Sunday evenings. The Young Adult groups meet but once a month, plus social evenings.

Revere has had for a few years a Revere Protestant Youth Group which invites all youth groups together once a month for joint meetings. Recently, attendance has dropped to about 35 at the Sunday night meetings. There is some question about continuing the movement if response does not improve. A good, live youth movement could help prevent a spirit of defeatism on the part of youth; and could build a spirit of enthusiasm which is needed in the churches.

The churches have other weekday activities for their people. All but one church has at least one women's group; half of the churches have men's clubs. Each church has at least one choir. Although six churches have mimeograph machines, only four send out regular letters to the members. Five of the ministers state that they have social evenings for members (and others) at least once a month.

Three of the churches sponsor basketball teams for boys during the winter months. At least two plan softball or baseball teams during the Spring. One church states it has a Scout Troop of 25 boys, with one leader who is a church member. Another church sponsors both a Boy Scout Troop and a Girl Scout Troop, on an interdenomination level, but with five leaders who are church members. The First Baptist Church has four clubs with about 100 members, for boys and girls, paralleling the Scout and Cub Troops. One other church has a girl's club.

Despite these clubs, this area of clubs and athletics seems to be an area where more work needs to be done, perhaps of a pioneering

nature. Both the Catholic and the Jewish groups have community centers and active programs for their youth. The Protestants might well get behind the Youth Commission in urging that civic community centers be built for all youth. Revere is an area of social needs, particularly among the juvenile population; Protestants should take the lead in encouraging improvements.

Four churches plan Vacation Schools for this summer; three of these, churches in the center of town, plan a combined Vacation Church School. Union services are held among these three churches. Possibly the summer program needs strengthening; the needs of the churches should be more closely examined. It might be possible for the ministers to hire one or more qualified religious workers to conduct vacation schools in various parts of the city throughout the summer, extending the schools to three or four weeks each. As vacation schools are often self-supporting, this only calls for leadership and encouragement on the part of the churches.

Four churches claim full-time ministers; two of these, however, have other incomes. Only four of the eight men supplying the churches live in Revere. In these four cases, the pastors are provided with parsonages, all in excellent or good condition. All of the pastors have had college training; five have had seminary training; and four have had additional graduate school work. The two Episcopal churches are served by laymen, who give as much time to the churches as they are able; both live out of town. Two of the churches have been served by students, consequently, they have had an unstable ministry, each having five preachers in the last ten years. In one case, the church has had 27 ministers in 60 years!

The ministers meet monthly except for Lent and the summer. Their ministerial association has officers, and liaison with the Protestant Youth and other groups. The ministers sponsor the Lenten services, held in different churches; they requested this survey, and they have sponsored other activities on behalf of the Protestant churches. Five or six ministers attend the monthly meetings. Up to the present, there has been no overture to the Pentecostal minister to join the fellowship.

Of the eight churches in our survey, five receive no subsidy from their denominations according to the questionnaires received. Three churches acknowledge help from outside sources, and a fourth is also listed as a mission. Three churches have outstanding debts, but these are not considered serious liabilities. Only two churches have endowments; in one case, the endowment is small; in the other, the income is not used for current expenses. All of the churches contribute to their denominations, and all send representatives to denominational meetings.

#### E. The Population Sampling

In conjunction with this reconnaissance study of Revere, a population sampling was taken in order to determine the relative strengths of the three major religious groups. All except four areas were covered in the sampling: the summer residence area bordering the beach, the "Cliftondale" section near Saugus, and two other small areas. We do not consider the exclusion of these areas harmful to the results of the census.

The survey census was made by students from the Church and Community Analysis class at Boston University and by church members in

Revere. There were 525 successful calls made, representing that many families. This gave us a census population of 1877 persons (3.59 persons per call); and a percentage figure of 5.11% of Revere's 1950 population of 36,763. This 5% sample is statistically valid, providing it is representative.

To check the representativeness of the sample, we weighed our figures by ward population. The resulting differences were slight, showing that our sample represented a fair cross-section. Another loose, but perhaps indicative check was the statement that there were 35 Greek Orthodox families in Revere. When we found that our sample indicated about forty families in the total population, this suggested a valid cross-section.

TABLE XV  
RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION OF 525 REVERE FAMILIES

	<u>Families</u>	<u>All Individuals</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>All Individuals (Weighted by wards)</u>
R. C.	56.4%	63.0% (23,190)	62.0%	65.6%	59.7%
Prot.	20.7	21.3 ( 7,830)	22.9	17.9	22.2
Jew.	14.5	12.2 ( 4,470)	11.7	13.2	14.7
None, Unknown	2.5	3.5 ( 1,270)	3.4	3.3	3.4
Mixed	5.0 - R.C. - Prot. .9 - Others				
Totals:	100.0	100.0	36,760	100.0	100.0

Table XV indicates that there are close to 8000 Protestants in Revere. Few of these attend church regularly. About 2300 of these are children. Compared to the United States Religious Census of 1936,

this indicates that the Protestant group is the fastest growing group in Revere!

TABLE XVI

## RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN 1936 AND 1951

	<u>1936</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>Source:</u>
Roman Catholic	20,132	57.0%	63.0%	U. S. Census of Relig-
Jewish	9,365	27.0%	12.2%	ious Bodies, 1936;
Protestant and others	5,822	16.0%	24.8%	Population Sampling,
Totals:	35,319	100.0%	100.0%	1951.

While the Jewish population has dwindled from 27.0% to 12.2% the Roman Catholic members in Revere have grown slightly from 57.0% to perhaps 63.0%, and Protestant church membership has declined; the potential Protestant population has increased about 50% - from 16.0% to 24.8% of the population.

From the sample we observe that Protestants seem to have fewer children than the Catholics. Though Protestants make up 22.9% of the adult population, they constitute only 17.9% of the child population. This may be in part due to the 5% mixed marriages, with many children brought up in the Roman Catholic faith. This fact is apparent also when we look at the size of the family in various religious groups. Discounting the families of those claiming no religion, the Roman Catholic families are largest with 3.87 members; mixed families are next largest with 3.55 members; Protestant families are third with 3.32 members; while Jewish families are smallest with only 3.00 members.

TABLE XVII  
SIZE OF FAMILY BY AFFILIATION

	<u>No. of Families</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Size of Family</u>
Roman Catholic	296	1125	3.87
Protestant	109	362	3.32
Jewish	76	227	3.00
None, Unknown	13	53	4.48
Mixed	<u>31</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>3.55</u>
Totals:	525	1877	3.59

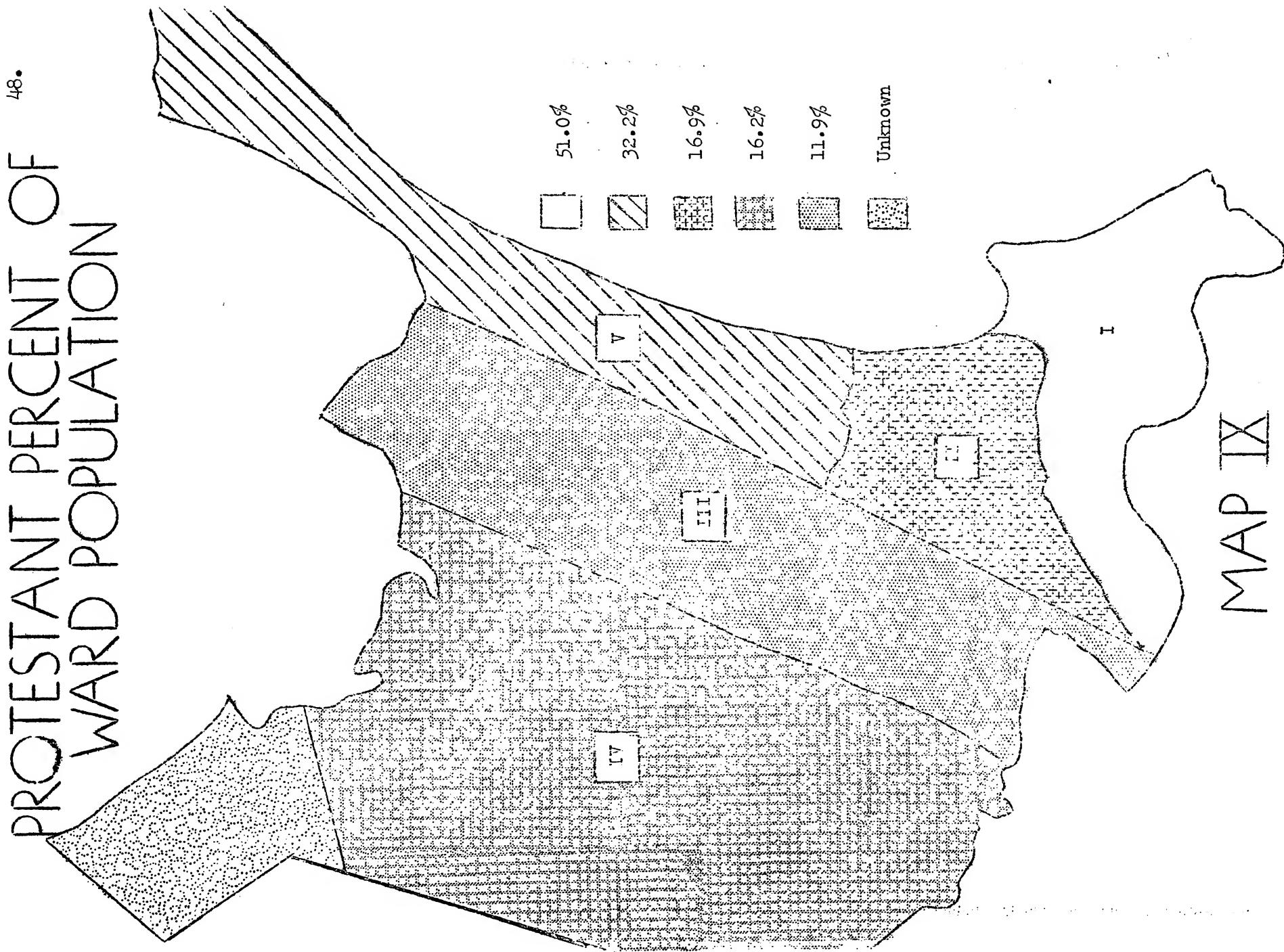
When we look at the religious affiliation of our sample by wards, it becomes apparent that the groups are not scattered equally in all parts of the city. Ward I, Beachmont, is the only ward which indicates a Protestant majority, and this is slight. Ward II is 48.6% Jewish. The other wards (III, IV, V) all have over three-fifths Roman Catholic residents, according to our figures. And, we note, seven of the nine Protestant churches are located in these last three wards!

TABLE XVIII  
RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION BY WARDS  
By percentages of 1877 persons

	I	II	III	IV	V
Roman Catholic	35.6	30.0	81.6	77.7	60.0
Protestant	51.0	16.9	11.9	16.2	32.2
Jewish	11.4	48.6	2.0	2.8	6.8
None, Other	2.1	4.5	4.5	3.2	1.1

How many of the Protestants attend church or Sunday School?  
And how many attend regularly?

PROTESTANT PERCENT OF  
WARD POPULATION



MAP IX

According to our sample, 52% of those with a religious affiliation in Revere attended church within one month (November 1951). This is exactly the percentage indicated by the pastors, showing that 52% of the total church membership constituted an average attendance for the month of March. However, many of those encountered on the survey had no church affiliation; and 66 persons named a specific church outside of Revere where they held membership. More than half of those designating church memberships outside of Revere named towns or cities which are not contiguous with Revere.

TABLE XIX  
ATTENDANCE AND NON-ATTENDANCE BY DENOMINATIONS

Attended:	Congr.	Episc.	Bapt.	Meth.	Total
Last Month	48	29	29	8	114 - 52%
Last 6 Months	12	17	11	7	47 - 21%
Last Year	12	2	7	2	23 - 11%
Did Not Attend During Year	12	8	6	10	36 - 16%
Total:	84	56	53	27	220 - 100%

Taking at random the replies of 561 Roman Catholic adults, 80.9% indicated they had attended mass in the last month, 12.3% had attended in the last six months, 2.7% had attended during the last year, and 4.1% had not attended for a year or more! Thus, Roman Catholic attendance claims are better than Protestant, yet by no means 100%.

Judging from the replies to our sample question, there are more Protestant children than are being reached by the churches of Revere. Parents told the surveyors that 86.4% of their children aged 6 - 17 were attending Sunday School or Young People's groups. This would represent about 1,055 children in the total population. Yet, only

793 children, we found, are enrolled in Sunday Schools or Youth Groups in the Protestant Churches. It was interesting to note, however, that many children, whose parents still retained membership in a church outside Revere, attended youth groups in Revere.

TABLE XX

## NUMBER AND AGE OF PROTESTANT CHILDREN IN SAMPLING

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Congr.</u>	<u>Episc.</u>	<u>Bapt.</u>	<u>Meth.</u>	<u>Other</u>
0-5 years	42	8	15	12	3	4
6-12 years	31	7	11	8	2	3
12-17 years	<u>27</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals:	100	22	33	27	9	9

What is the future for Protestantism in Revere? Our community survey suggests that many favorable factors may make Revere a very satisfactory residential city, favorable to church growth. Though Roman Catholic population is remaining in about the same proportion, Protestant population is increasing. The Jewish population seems to be declining fast, and probably will continue to do so. The Jewish population in our sample seemed to be the newest group in Revere, yet also the most desirous of moving out. Sixty-five percent of the Protestants stated that they intended to remain in Revere.

TABLE XXI

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE AT SAME ADDRESS BY AFFILIATION  
"How Long Have You Live At This Address?" (465 replies)

	<u>0-12 mos.</u>	<u>1 yr.</u>	<u>2-5 yrs.</u>	<u>6-10 yrs.</u>	<u>11-15</u>	<u>16-20</u>	<u>21-30</u>	<u>31+</u>	<u>Med. Yrs.</u>
Roman Cath.	24	21	67	57	32	17	42	23	8
Protestant	10	7	22	19	15	8	17	11	9
Jewish	4	4	21	11	7	5	5	3	6
Other, Unk.	1	1	2	1	2	1	3	2	13

TABLE XXII

INTENTION TO MOVE FROM REVERE BY AFFILIATION  
 "Would you like to move out of Revere when the housing shortage is over?"  
 (470 replies)

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>
Roman Catholic	286	17.7%	70.0%	12.3% 100.0%
Protestant	114	20.2%	65.0%	14.8% 100.0%
Jewish	56	26.8%	59.0%	14.2% 100.0%
Other	14	0.0%	71.0%	29.0% 100.0%

One pastor stated that prospects for Protestant churches in Revere seemed to be on an upward trend. Most of the others felt that the Roman Catholic and Jewish population were increasing. Yet, better than one-third of the Protestant families contacted in our survey had moved to their present address in the last five years. These seem to be the families largely unreached by Protestant churches, and the hope for a revitalized Protestantism.

#### F. Gambling and the Race Tracks in Revere

Some of the pastors felt that the race tracks in Revere have a detrimental effect upon the churches. Others felt that there was no effect. It was interesting to note, however, that in answer to the question, "Should gambling be allowed in Revere?", a substantial majority of all questioned stated "No".

TABLE XXIII

"SHOULD GAMBLING BE ALLOWED IN REVERE?"  
 Percentages by affiliation (475 replies)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>
Roman Catholic	17.0%	53.6%	29.5% 100.1%
Protestant	13.0%	74.0%	13.0% 100.0%
Jewish	12.0%	58.7%	29.3% 100.0%
Others	0.0%	71.0%	29.0% 100.0%
All Replies	14.9%	59.5%	25.6% 100.0%

The significant findings from Table XXIII are that Protestants are less uncertain than other groups; and that only a small proportion of any religious group favors gambling in Revere. The effects of the race tracks on the churches would be hard to measure, and could not be attempted in this study.

#### G. Areas of Weakness in Protestant Churches in Revere

The primary weakness of Revere churches seems to be in failing to reach the newcomers to the city. Evidently, a large proportion of the new residents; yet few Protestants are transferring their memberships to the local churches.

Several ministers suggested the need for fewer churches in Revere. As a rule of thumb, 1500 available persons (non-Roman, non-Jewish) is often used as the minimum Protestant population to support one church. Using this figure as a guide, Revere should have at most five or six Protestant churches. Presumably, the five churches could then be served by full-time pastors. This is an area for further study, and should be referred to the denominations in question.

Revere churches could be doing more in social service for their youth. This should probably be done through the city, rather than providing specifically sectarian agencies.

The summer program of the churches should be studied, to see if the churches could not provide more service to youth and adults during the long summer vacation.

Closer relations might be established with the Pentecostal church, and also with the churches not represented in the ministers association. The attempt to meet new residents of Revere should most

certainly be done cooperatively. The possibility of a United Church Canvas approach to church financing might well be explored. Other projects which no single church could carry on with maximum effectiveness could be done as a united Protestant effort in Revere.

# THE CARD USED IN POPULATION SAMPLING

Surname:				Ward:		
ADDRESS:				Floor:		
How long have you lived at this address?						
Check Information	Names of Adults (18 and over)	Church Membership Name & Denomination	Church Attendance			
			Name of Church	Last Mo.	Last 6 Mo.	Last Year
	Mr.					
	Mrs.					
	M					
	M					
Children Under 18 (WRITE NAME OF CHURCH OR STATE NONE)						
Name	Age	Sun. School Attended	Young People's	Church Membership		

Would you like to move out of Revere when the housing shortage is over? Yes  No  Uncertain

Should gambling be allowed in Revere? Yes  No  Uncertain

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Canvasser \_\_\_\_\_  
 Revere, 1951

## CHART IX

# FIGURES USED IN CALCULATIONS

WARDS	I	II	III	IV	V	City Totals
1950 Population	5640	8006	8326	10638	4153	36763
Family units in sample:	72	107	149	130	67	525
Population in sample:	236	330	574	500	237	1877
Percent of ward pop. in sample:	4.20	4.14	6.90	4.69	5.72	5.11
Percent of city pop. in ward:	15.3	21.8	22.6	29.0	11.3	100.0

TABLE XXIV

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN REVERE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS, 1952

	Total Members	Members Active And Resident in Revere	Avg. Attend. 3-152	Net Gain or Loss 1951	Sunday School			Youth Groups		
					Pupils*	Teachers	Avg. Attend. 3-152**	Age	Number	Meetings
1	166	152	100	-8	70	14	48	11 - 14 17 - 24	12 15	Sunday Evening Sunday Evening
2	81	58	42	+8	60	7	44	12 - 14 15 - 16	7 8	Thursday Evening Thursday Evening
3	164	136	127	0	116	20	48	13 - 20 9 - 13 14 - 18	12 18 30	Monday Evening Sunday Evening Sunday Evening
4	357	250	188	+1	148	22	91	Young Adults	25	Twice Monthly
5	45	30	32	+6	65	11	50	None	--	-----
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Jr. High Sr. High	6 10	Friday Afternoon Sunday Evening
6	112	85	80	+15	64	6	23	Young Adults	35	Monthly
7	276	276	78	+7	42	4	25	None	--	-----
8	114	72	35	+11	50	9	38	None	--	-----
Total:	1315	1059	682	+40	615	93	367	11	178	

\*Includes cradle roll

\*\*Includes Teachers

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN REVERE FINANCIAL CONDITION, 1952

	Church Building			Parsonage		Approx. Local Exp.	Approx. Benevolence	to Denom.	Contr.	Subsidy	from Denom.	Debt	Endowment
	Constr.	Seats	Value	Condition	Value	Cond.							
1 Frame	250	\$100,000	Good	\$13,000	Good	\$8,000	\$1,500	\$100.	No	No	No	No	
2 Frame	150	\$ 35,000	Good	None	--	\$3,000	\$ 50	\$ 25.	No	Yes	No		
3 Frame	200	\$ 72,000	Excel	\$13,000	Excel	\$7,500	\$ 600	\$400.	No	Yes	No		
4 Frame	360	\$ 50,000	Fair	\$10,000	Good	\$12,000	\$ 800	\$1250.	No	No	Yes		
5 Frame	80	\$ 2,500	Fair	None	--	\$1,500	\$ 100	\$125.	Yes	No	No		
6 Frame	250	\$ 30,000	Good	\$ 6,500	Good	\$4,300	\$ 250	\$300.	Yes	Yes	No		
7 Stone	150	\$ 38,000	Good	None	--	\$3,500	--	\$150.	No	No	No		
8 Frame	120	\$ 15,000	Fair	None	--	\$2,500	\$ 250	\$150.	Yes	No	Yes		
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>1560</b>											

- 1. First Congregational
- 2. Community Church
- 3. Trinity Congregational
- 4. First Baptist
- 5. Bay Road Chapel
- 6. First Methodist
- 7. St. Ann's
- 8. St. Paul's

**TABLE XXVI**

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN REVERE ACTIVITIES

Worship Services	Women's Club No.	Women's Club Members	Men's Club Members	Choirs Type	Members	Athletic Activities	Other Weekday Activities	Regular Letter To Homes	Vacation Church School
1-Sunday							Married Couples Club	No	
1-Weekday	1	35	--	Sr.	15	---			Combined
2	1-Sunday	1	26	12	Sr.	12	---	Yes	No
	"	"	"	Jr.	18	Basketball for boys	Boy Scouts		
3	1-Sunday	2	40	20	Sr.	14	Girl Scouts Social Evenings	No	Not planned for 1952
	2-Sunday			Jr.	18	Basketball & baseball for boys	4 Clubs for boys & girls		
4	1-Weekday	5	85	20	Sr.	25	Social evenings	Yes	Combined
5	1-Sunday	0	--	--	Jr.	5	Social evenings	No	Yes
1-Weekday				Jr.	10	Basketball &			
6	1-Sunday	2	52	--	Sr.	15	Softball- boys	Social evenings	Combined
				Jr.	10		Boy Scouts		
7	2-Sunday	2	44	47	Sr.	16	Social evening	No	No
				Sr.	12	---	Girl's Friendly Club	Yes	No
8	1-Sunday	1	8	--					

- 1. First Congregational
- 2. Community Church
- 3. Trinity Congregational
- 4. First Baptist
- 5. Bay Road Chapel
- 6. First Methodist
- 7. St. Ann's
- 8. St. Pauls

TABLE XXVII

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN REVERE

## PASTORS, OTHER WORKERS

Time Devoted to Church by Pastor	Years in Revere	Predecessors Last 10 Years	Education	Residence	Other Workers
Full-time (Receives other income)	"		Seminary & Graduate School	Revere	---
1 (Lay preacher)	2	1			
Full-time (retired)	2	2	Seminary	Melrose	Religious Education Director
3 Full-time	3	2	College	Revere	---
4 Full-time	3	2	Seminary & Graduate School	Revere	Janitor; organist; and choir director
Part-time About 20 hours					
5 (Student)	1	4	Seminary	Roxbury	---
Part-time About 40 hours					
6 (Student)	3	4	Seminary & Graduate School	Revere	Janitor; organist and choir director
Part-time (lay preacher)	4	2	College	Malden	---
Part-time About 15 hours					
8 (lay preacher)	9	1	Graduate School	Medford	---

- 1. First Congregational
- 2. Community Church
- 3. Trinity Congregational
- 4. First Baptist

- 5. Bay Road Chapel
- 6. First Methodist
- 7. St. Ann's
- 8. St. Paul's

TABLE XXVIII

# PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF REVERE FACILITIES

	Kitchen	Banquet Hall	Ladies Parlor	Club or Scout Rm.	Mimeo. Machine	Library in Use	Adequate S.S. Rooms	Motion Picture Projector	Other
1 First Cong.	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	
2 Community Church	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Fair	Yes	
3 Trinity Cong.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Partly	Yes	No	
4 First Baptist	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Electronic tower chimes
5 Bay Road Chapel	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	
6 First Methodist	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
7 St. Ann's	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
8 St. Paul's	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Totals:	8	8	4	4	6	3½	5	4	

TABLE XXIX

60.  
A6618/0